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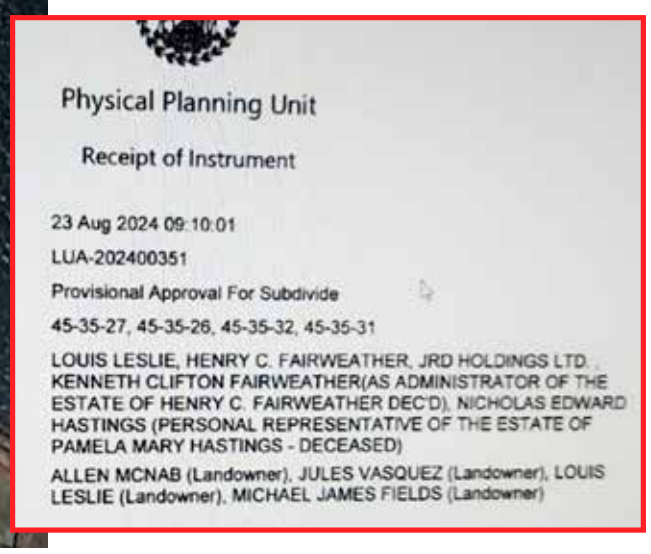
MASTER OF DECEPTION

IS CHAMPION OF LAND RIGHTS OR LAND GRABBING?



Physical Planning Unit

Receipt of Instrument

23 Aug 2024 09:10:01

LUA-202400351

Provisional Approval For Subdivide

45-35-27, 45-35-26, 45-35-32, 45-35-31

LOUIS LESLIE, HENRY C. FAIRWEATHER, JRD HOLDINGS LTD., KENNETH CLIFTON FAIRWEATHER(AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY C. FAIRWEATHER DEC'D), NICHOLAS EDWARD HASTINGS (PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF PAMELA MARY HASTINGS - DECEASED)

ALLEN MCNAB (Landowner), JULES VASQUEZ (Landowner), LOUIS LESLIE (Landowner), MICHAEL JAMES FIELDS (Landowner)

On August 23, 2024, Jules Vasquez travelled to Belmopan to visit the land office NOT to investigate his manufactured issue of a tertiary care hospital for Belmopan and, for all intents, for Belize but to trigger ownership of a public area. Documentation reveals that the self-declared UDP-trustee(now defunct, always dysfunctional mass political party) was there to apply for approval to subdivide "Hanga" land for himself and other neighbours. This newspaper has largely ignored the blocked hangar story as it seemed like an issue that would resolve once cooler heads prevailed for the sake of the people of the city and the area residents. But, there was a lot more brewing which cannot be ignored.

For context for our readers not familiar with the "hanga"

■ Pg. 2

EU-ILO Training for Entrepreneurs | MoEST Joint Sector Review
DFC Receives Award | Youth Parliament Coming Up | MSME Amnesty Success

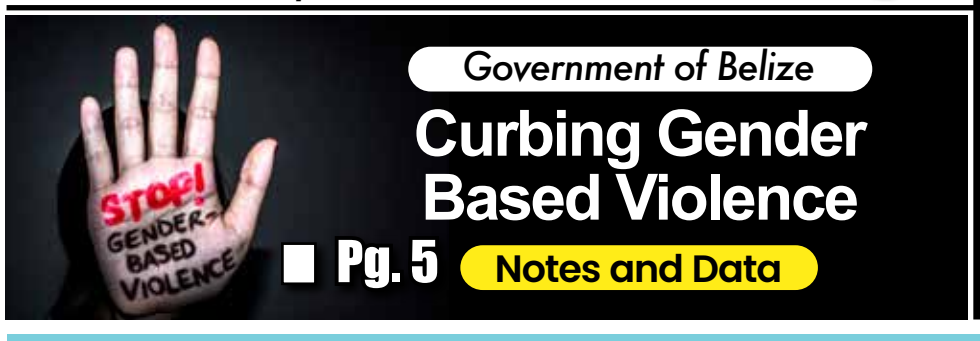
■ Inside

MILLION DALLA JACKPOT
BUY YOUR TICKET NOW AND MAKE YOUR DREAMS A REALITY!
THE DRAWING DATE IS DECEMBER 20TH

Millions in Profit Benefitting Health, Sports, & Boledo Winners

■ Pg. 2

■ Pg. 4



Government of Belize

Curbing Gender Based Violence

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SHYNE & THE UDP

Wasting People's Resources

ANOTHER CASE DISMISSED

■ Pg. 8

National Enterprenuer Month: Coming soon BELTRAIDE's KRISMUS CATALOGUE

MASTER OF DECEPTION

IS CHAMPION OF LAND RIGHTS OR LAND GRABBING?

Continued from page 1

area, this area in Belize City can be accessed via Princess Margaret Drive & Barrack Road as you head towards BTL Park from SJC/Marion Jones area. The area comes after the gospel streets of St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, St. John, plus St. Charles and St. Edward. All these names are tossed in the legal mumbo-jumbo for this area that in historical times housed a Hangar for airplanes and has long been abandoned as such. The 'Hanga' gained public acclaim as a parking area for people who wanted to stop for a "quiet" bite of food, or imbibing into several other pastimes. The waters are a swimming area as well for residents who come from all over the city. The time of the day/night the area is accessed generally determines what the pastime involves. It must be noted that Google Maps does not indicate a street for this area that would seem to be a dirt road along the seawall. This is seafront natural property of the sea or the public where no private construction should take place for sixty-six feet.

A couple months ago in August of 2025, the Belize City Council blocked access to the area with some obviously costly giant cement blocks much to the chagrin of vehicle owners who frequented the area. This was not the beginning of this imbroglio but it was covid-19 to Jules as it led to him and others being exposed. But Jules also exposed his rank hypocrisy as the story was largely ignored until his name surfaced. The most recent removal of the massive planter cement blocks is another major point in this story. This is where this paper will leave this controversy to continue playing out in the social and legal domains.

On a side note, the daily news is for the people of Belize and not for nor about any journalist. When a journalist sticks his actions into the fray(or hides these actions) it leads to journalistic hypocrisy. This PUP paper proudly puts out the truth about the achievements of our Party and today we inform the people of the successes of planBelize and planBelize 2.0. Much success has arisen since November of 2020 as Belize rose from the UDP ashes. Jules Vasquez via Channel 7 has been the journalistic heckler who earnestly searches for even the smallest of non-existent potholes in miles and miles of achievements. This latter is both figurative and real. On Mondays then, he belches out his manufactured issues to an audience of two. He calls this the Monday Morning Beef but it is more like bull. Once in a while, he pulls in guests to an Uncut which is also misnomered. After that show, he cuts what guests say into convenient clips.

The PUP is not perfect and there is a place for constructive criticism in the John Briceño way of doing things. But 7's criticisms are often veiled in false narratives and misleading statements which then insults the intelligence of his large audience and gives their advertisement dollars a taste of dishonesty. Of course, the 2008-2020 level of advertisement dollars Channel 7 gained in the UDP era is nostalgic for Jules. His Party has lost EIGHT major election cycles despite his rhetoric. It would seem that Jules is helping the UDP to lose elections due to his obviously embellished news delivery.

Closing off with the August 23, 2024 hypocrisy, let's take a quick look at the headlines on News 7 for that same August 23 evening: "Briceño Reversing of Land Purchase", "UDP Joined Demonstration Not with Clean Hands", and "Lands Commissioner's Conflict of Interest?". There was no item on the Hangar request for 'Provisional Approval to Subdivide'. While Boots Martinez was hammered for his own controversy in blocking access of Belizean Beach by the same Jules Vasquez, Vasquez himself, for all intents, was part and parcel of blocking access of a Belizean beach as well. This, of course, was only the beginning of eventual intent to owning of the now still public area. And the story continues.

Million Dalla Jackpot

You Asked for it and It's Back

The Belize Government Lotteries limited continues making its mark using Belizean traditions and thus working in tandem with the nation. As they put it, Belize is marking an incredible milestone and the BGLL is thrilled to announce that Belize will once again be celebrating the limited time only $1 Million Jackpot Game—"a celebration of our journey, our community, and our commitment to giving back."

The sale of the tickets began as soon as it was announced on November 3, 2025. These special tickets can be purchased from your usual BGLL sub agent countrywide. Something that is GRAND this yead is that the Million Dalla Jackpot Tickets will also be available for purchase on the Fi We Boledo App starting Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Sources tell us that on the day of the announcement the Boledo App was downloaded some 600 times which indicates interest in the Boledo and in winning the Million Dollars.

Ticket sales will end on Saturday, December 20, 2025 at 11:50am and the drawing will take place at 12:00 noon from the Belize Government Lotteries Ltd.'s drawing office located in Belmopan. As is usual with the Sunday Jackpot, players will choose a 4 -digit sequence and the cost of each ticket will be $5.00. The jackpot prize will be $1 million dollars. In the event that there is more than one winner, the prize winnings will be shared between all winners. Prize winnings will be made directly by the Belize Government Lotteries Ltd. at their office location in Belmopan City. Prizes can be redeemed during normal business hours (Monday – Friday 8:00am-5:00 pm) starting on December 22, 2025.

The BGLL is advising customers that tickets will only be valid for 30 days after the drawing date. Paper tickets must be fully legible with the QR code and ticket number intact in order to redeem prize. We therefore encourage all players to safeguard their tickets to avoid any damage. Tickets purchased via the Fi We Boledo Mobile App will also be valid for only 30 days after the drawing and players MUST update their app profile with a valid bank account number in order to redeem their prize. Profits from the sale of the One Million Dollar Jackpot Game will be donated to a charitable organization decided upon by the Board.

It must be noted that and audit for the second year of the Boledo is complete and will be made public soon. Indications is that their sales have been higher than in the first year when 17 million was passed to NHI/Charitable organizations. The opposition of course is playing with the question on who the charitable organizations are. This can be allayed by checking with the Registry for an up to date list. In addition, as was said initially, sports will also benefit from the general Boledo profits. Nobody benefits more than the player themselves who take back Seventy per cent of the total sales.

Belize Government Lotteries Ltd. thanks all players for their participation and encourages you to play responsibly.

Let's celebrate success with generosity. Join us in making this anniversary unforgettable—for you and for those in need!

"A Million Reasons to Play. Infinite Reasons to Care."

For more information, please contact: Belize Government Lotteries Limited 11223 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan Tel: 880-4731

Email: info@lotteries.bz

OJ's Hot & Depressed

Asked to Cease and Desist

As has become a scratch CD or Record for older folks, Social Media outlet HOT OFF the Press is still churning out fake news as if it is their only skill.

One that jumps out is another attempt to shame the Government of Belize on sending of food grocery items immediately after Melissa made landfall on New Hope in Jamaica. Belize turned real hope into groceries and the life for our students in Jamaica as many of them were posting that buying groceries was difficult.

One student posted what he received, and this was immediately grabbed by Hot and Depressed to mean dissatisfaction.

In fact, the young student quickly asked for a retraction as he did not mean that he was dissatisfied. In fact, he appreciated the help.

"I came to clean up the air

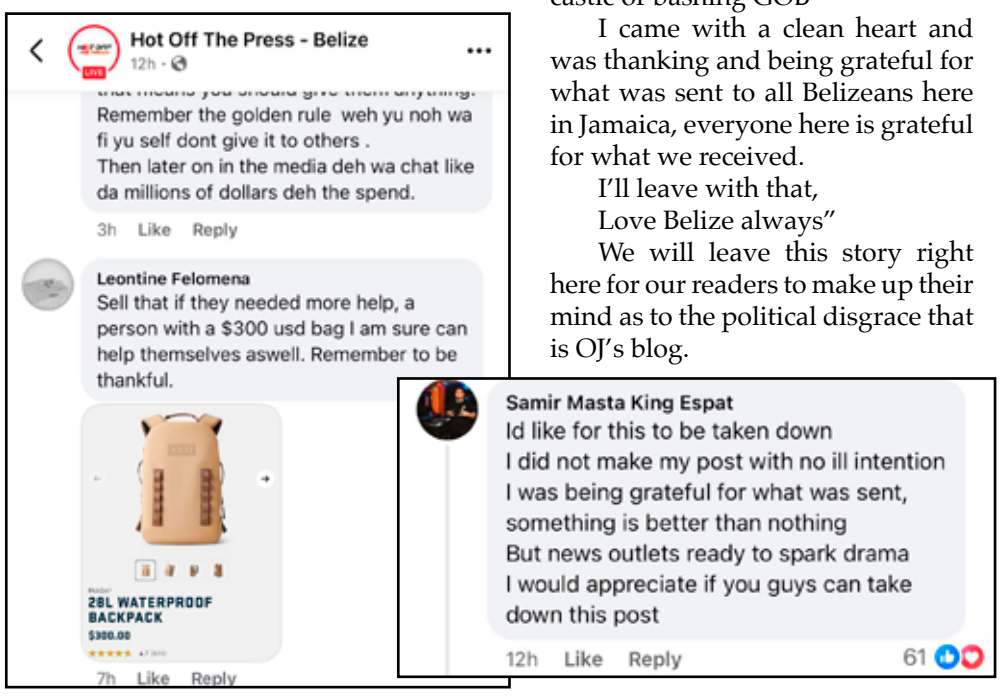
I had no intention of being Sarcastic or bashing GOB

I came with a clean heart and was thanking and being grateful for what was sent to all Belizeans here in Jamaica, everyone here is grateful for what we received.

I'll leave with that,

Love Belize always"

We will leave this story right here for our readers to make up their mind as to the political disgrace that is OJ's blog.


Hot Off The Press - Belize
12h
Remember the golden rule weh yu noh wa fi yu self dont give it to others .
Then later on in the media deh wa chat like da millions of dollars deh the spend.
3h Like Reply
Leontine Felomena
Sell that if they needed more help, a person with a $300 usd bag I am sure can help themselves aswell. Remember to be thankful.
28L WATERPROOF BACKPACK
$300.00
7h Like Reply
Samir Masta King Espat
Id like for this to be taken down
I did not make my post with no ill intention
I was being grateful for what was sent,
something is better than nothing
But news outlets ready to spark drama
I would appreciate if you guys can take down this post
12h Like Reply 61

The Belize Times

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EDITORIAL

NICHES AND SOLUTIONS

"As an entrepreneur, I see all this as an opportunity, not an obstacle to the unhindered operation of the free market."(Anon) In 2025, new Belizean entrepreneurs relentlessly seek opportunities and, daily, contend with the mixed economy of private endeavours working in tandem with a well-balanced set of government regulations and policies. The planBelize ecosystem provides a business strategy for both the development of the country and the growth of private businesses. As business succeeds, so does the country, and vice versa, in a productive cycle. Since 2020, the planBelize team has innovatively and effectively established itself as a valuable intermediary in the Public-Private-Partnership context. The government inevitably had to help its people to find niches successfully and develop practical solutions.

Belize's PPP has been hailed as a success, effectively financing, building, and operating public projects such as specialised roads, public hospitals, and utilities. However, the much broader value of the innovative entrepreneur has been key in the rise of the MSMEs in Belize post-COVID-19. Political fate has this rise coinciding with the public ousting of the despised-for-being-corrupt and detested-for-being-incompetent Barrow administration. Belizeans, especially women, brought the 'necessity being the mother of invention' axiom to life. Tit for tat, planBelize proved malleable, as John Briceño and team now deserve credit for recognising the indisputable: the government had to support these entrepreneurs with legislation and policy, OR immediately regress in credibility. If the people were adept at identifying niches in which to grow a business and defining solutions to problems that arise, then the Government was duty-bound to serve these entrepreneurs meaningfully.

Belize's entrepreneurs employ 70 per cent of the workforce directly or indirectly. We in Belize can see who is small and who is big beyond floor dimensions, gross earnings, and employee numbers. Our entrepreneurs are the juice sellers, the icemen, the Orange Economy artists, the farmers, the fishermen, the cleaners, the pastry shops, the private clinics, the seamstresses, the restaurants, the barbers, the hairdressers, the law firms, the news outlets, and we can go on. Belize is limited only by our population and the dynamics of education. Today, Belize's economy cannot wait for a graduate to remove their Academic dress, or better yet, employers have recruited yet-to-be grads who are waiting for an opportunity to build experience and capital. Be assured that employers know that young Belizeans are looking to "get rich". Employees know that working for someone is an obstacle, but a welcome challenge. Belize is not a free market, but the spirits of our people are surely free. As our population becomes more educated, they will view regulation as another obstacle that the government of the day will constantly need to address.

Recent planBelize legislation aims to improve the business landscape: MSME Tax Amnesty, Income and Business Tax (Amendment) Act 2024, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act 2025, Business Names (Registration) Act 2024, Fiscal Incentives Act 2023, and Movable Property Security Rights Act 2024 with the Secured Transactions and Collateral Registry. Each initiative directly supports entrepreneurs' ability to access financing, enter the formal economy, and overcome obstacles. These actions underscore the central argument that policy must actively enable entrepreneurship for economic progress.

So the record of the planBelize government to pave the way, as much as possible, for entrepreneurs is enshrined in law, not rhetoric. Legislation can do all except provide business ideas for business opportunities, which remain within the domain of Belizeans and their entrepreneurial spirit. During this, the Month of the Entrepreneur, let us celebrate the jobs provided by our MSMEs, who have created businesses by identifying niches and solving problems. As Belizeans, we should support Belizean products and buy them. Support Belize!

en Español

NICHOS Y SOLUCIONES

«Como empresario, veo todo esto como una oportunidad, no como un obstáculo para el funcionamiento sin trabas del libre mercado» (Anónimo). En 2025, los nuevos empresarios beliceños buscan sin descanso oportunidades y, a diario, se enfrentan a la economía mixta de las iniciativas privadas que trabajan en tándem con un conjunto bien equilibrado de regulaciones y políticas gubernamentales. El ecosistema planBelice ofrece una estrategia empresarial tanto para el desarrollo del país como para el crecimiento de las empresas privadas. Cuando las empresas tienen éxito, también lo tiene el país, y viceversa, en un ciclo productivo. Desde 2020, el equipo de planBelice se ha consolidado de forma innovadora y eficaz como un valioso intermediario en el ámbito de la colaboración público-privada (CPP). El gobierno tuvo que, inevitablemente, ayudar a su población a encontrar nichos de éxito y a desarrollar soluciones prácticas.

La CPP de Belice ha sido aclamada como un éxito, ya que ha financiado, construido y gestionado eficazmente proyectos públicos como carreteras especializadas, hospitales y servicios públicos. Sin embargo, el valor mucho mayor del emprendedor innovador ha sido clave para el auge de las MIPYMES en Belice tras el COVID-19. El destino político ha hecho que este auge coincida con la destitución pública de la administración de Barrow, despreciada por su corrupción y detestada por su incompetencia. Los beliceños, especialmente las mujeres, dieron vida al axioma «la necesidad es la madre de la invención». Como respuesta, planBelice demostró ser flexible, ya que John Briceño y su equipo ahora merecen el reconocimiento por lo indiscutible: el Gobierno tenía que apoyar a estos emprendedores con legislación y políticas, o perder inmediatamente su credibilidad. Si la población era experta en identificar nichos en los que hacer crecer un negocio y en definir soluciones a los problemas que surgían, entonces el Gobierno tenía la obligación de servir a estos emprendedores de manera significativa.

Los emprendedores de Belice emplean al 70 % de la población activa, directa o indirectamente. En Belice podemos ver quién es pequeño y quién es grande más allá de las dimensiones del local, los ingresos brutos y el número de empleados. Nuestros emprendedores son los vendedores de zumos, los repartidores de hielo, los artistas de la economía naranja, los agricultores, los pescadores, los limpiadores, las pastelerías, las clínicas privadas, las costureras, los restaurantes, los barberos, los peluqueros, los bufetes de abogados, los medios de comunicación y podríamos seguir. Belice solo está limitado por nuestra población y la dinámica de la educación. Hoy en día, la economía de Belice no puede esperar a que un graduado se quite la toga académica, mejor aún, los empleadores han contratado a futuros graduados que esperan una oportunidad para adquirir experiencia y capital. Tenga la seguridad de que los empleadores saben que los jóvenes beliceños buscan «hacerse ricos». Los empleados saben que trabajar para alguien es un obstáculo, pero también un reto bienvenido. Belice no es un mercado libre, pero el espíritu de nuestro pueblo es, sin duda, libre. A medida que nuestra población se vaya educando más, considerará la regulación como otro obstáculo que el gobierno de turno deberá abordar constantemente.

La reciente legislación del planBelice tiene como objetivo mejorar el panorama empresarial: Amnistía fiscal para las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas, Ley de impuestos sobre la renta y las empresas (enmienda) de 2024, Ley de insolvencia y quiebra de 2025, Ley de nombres comerciales (registro) de 2024, Ley de incentivos fiscales de 2023 y Ley de derechos de garantía sobre bienes muebles de 2024 con el Registro de Transacciones Garantizadas y Garantías. Cada iniciativa apoya directamente la capacidad de los emprendedores para acceder a financiación, ingresar a la economía formal y superar obstáculos. Estas medidas subrayan el argumento central de que las políticas deben fomentar activamente el espíritu emprendedor para promover el progreso económico.

Así pues, el historial del Gobierno de planBelice de allanar el camino, en la medida de lo posible, a los emprendedores está consagrado en la ley, no en la retórica. La legislación puede hacer todo, menos proporcionar ideas de negocio para oportunidades empresariales que siguen siendo competencia de los beliceños y de su espíritu emprendedor. Durante este Mes del Emprendedor, celebremos los puestos de trabajo que ofrecen nuestras micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas, que han creado negocios identificando nichos y resolviendo problemas. Como beliceños, debemos apoyar los productos beliceños y comprarlos. ¡Apoyemos a Belice!

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Sixth Cohort Completes Cell Phone Repair Training in Dangriga Town

October 31, 2025 - The Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Investment, through its Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU), in collaboration with the Taiwan Technical Mission and the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs, concluded the "Cell Phone Repair Training for Women in Belize" in Dangriga Town.

The course was conducted from October 27 to 31 at the Belize Unity Institute for Leadership and Development (BUILD) training room, comprising 50 hours of intensive, hands-on training to 15 women across the Stann Creek District, including Pomona, Mile 28, Hope Creek, Independence, Placencia, and Santa Rosa. The objective of the training was to create self-employment opportunities for the participants while addressing the growing demand for cell phone repair technicians.

A total of 55 phones were repaired in Dangriga, with the most common fixes being the replacement of batteries, screens, and charging ports. Certificates of completion were presented, and cell phone repair kits were distributed to the 15 participants who successfully completed the course. Present at the closing ceremony were Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs; Hon. Rodwell Ferguson, Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister; His Worship Robert Mariano, Mayor of Dangriga Town; Mrs. Debora Jones, Representative of Dr. Hon. Louis Zabaneh, Minister of Constitution and Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs and Transportation; Mr. Lincoln Blake, Director of the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit; Mr. Andrew Su, Chief of the Taiwan Technical Mission in Belize; Ms. Seidi Quetzal, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Culture and Immigration; and Mr. Abisur Quintal, Instructor, Jarvis Fix.

This collaborative partnership between the Ministry of Investment, the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs, and the National Women's Commission aligns with the mandate of the National Gender Policy 2024-2030 and the Government's Medium-Term Development Strategy 2022-2026, both of which aim to reduce income and productivity gaps between urban and rural communities through investment, youth skills enhancement, and enterprise development. (release)

The training has been moving around the country. The next step for Dangriga is to return with the next level that is called advanced training. The individual stories of women and a teen in one instance who have taken to open business of cell phone repair in town and in the rural areas give testimony to the success of this initiative. The same is expected in Dangriga and surroundings.

LETTER TO THE Editor

Together, We End the Silence

Dear Editor,

Later this month, Belize will stand united under a powerful message: "Violence is NOT love. Silence is NOT peace." Our nation has lost too many lives to gender-based violence, and the time has come to break the silence once and for all.

This campaign, "Together, We End the Silence. Together, We End the Violence," is more than just a slogan—it's a call to action. It is a cry for every Belizean woman, man, and youth to take a stand against all forms of gender-based violence that continue to destroy families and communities.

Too many voices have been silenced, and too many dreams cut short. Ending this cycle requires compassion, accountability, and collective responsibility. It begins in our homes, our schools, and our neighborhoods. We must teach our sons and daughters that love is not control, that strength is not abuse, and that silence enables suffering.

Through awareness, education, and community action, we can create a Belize where every person—woman, man, and child—lives free from fear.

The time for change is now. Let us unite, speak out, and take action. Together, we end the silence. Together, we end the violence.

Sincerely,
End The Violence

Curbing Gender Based Violence

Collecting Notes and Data (2023 and 2024)

Belize Crime Observatory, the Police Department, United Nation GBV Reviews and the National Women's Commission

What is Gender-Based Violence?

GBV is any harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. It includes:

- **Physical Violence** – Any act which causes harm as a result of unlawful physical force.
- **Sexual Violence** – Any sexual act performed on an individual without consent (e.g. rape, unlawful sexual intercourse, sexual abuse)
- **Gender-related killings** (femicide or killings of women/girls because of their gender)
- **Psychological Violence** – Any act which causes psychological hard to an individual (e.g. coercion, defamation, insult, threat, harassment)

Many victims are women and girls; underreporting is a major issue.

2023 Statistics

- The Belize Police Department registered **1,250 Domestic Violence** cases during January- December 2023.
- In the major crimes category: **50 Unlawful Sexual Intercourse** cases.
- Also recorded: **34 Rape** cases.
- Approximately **7 in 10 (70%)** of domestic violence cases involved persons aged 18-45.
- About **9 in every 10** domestic violence complainants were female.
- In 2023, among murdered females: it is estimated that **1 in 10 female murder victims** were victims of gender-related murders (femicide) and **6 in 10** of those were murdered with a firearm.
- Sexual violence: 99 % of the victims were female; 50 % of victims of sexual violence were aged 10-19 years.

2024 Statistics

- For January-December 2024, registered by police: **1,277 Domestic Violence cases.**
- **51 Unlawful Sexual Intercourse** cases in 2024.
- **33 Rape** cases in 2024.
- Domestic violence reports *decreased* by 7% in 2024 relative to 2023.
- Arrests/investigations for domestic violence increased by 2% in 2024.
- Most domestic violence cases in 2024 were still filed by females aged 18-45; about 9 in 10 complainants are female.

Notes:

- High proportion of **victims are females,** particularly in domestic and sexual violence.
- **Young adults (18-45) are most affected** in domestic violence cases.
- **Child/adolescent risk significant:** in 2023, half of sexual-violence victims **were girls aged 10-19.**
- Rape and unlawful sexual intercourse remain **relatively low in number** compared to domestic violence, but these are likely under-reported.
- The slight **increase** in domestic violence registration in 2024 despite a drop in reports suggests possible better reporting/evidence/follow-up rather than a true drop in incidence.
- **Femicide/gender-related murder remains a concern** though exact numbers are limited; the 2023 data suggest 10% of female murder victims fell under that category.
- Under-reporting and societal stigma remain major obstacles to fully understanding the scale of GBV.

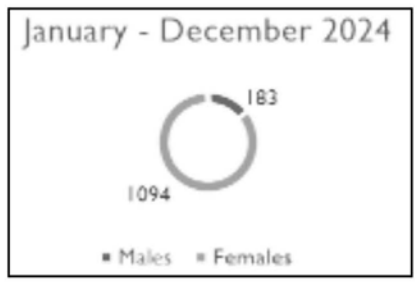
Number of Police-registered cases of gender-based violence in selected categories, as of December 31st, 2024.

Domestic Violence 1277; Unlawful Sexual Intercourse 51; Rape 33

Number of Police-registered cases of gender-based violence in selected categories, as of December 31st, 2023.

Domestic Violence 1250; Unlawful Sexual Intercourse 57; Rape 40

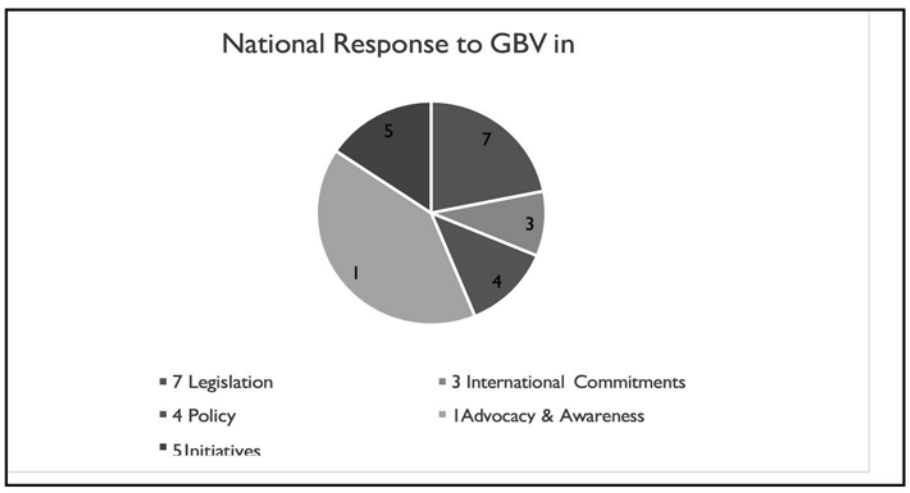
Domestic Violence Cases by Sex of Complainant: about 9 in every 10 are females



Police Domestic Violence Cases by Age Group of Complainant (Jan-Dec 2024).

Cases for Males	# of Complaints	Cases for Females	# of Complaints
Unknown	5	Unknown	14
Over 45	50	Over 45	156
18-45	111	18-45	825
Under 18	17	Under 18	99

Response to Gender Based Violence in Belize



Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the

observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.

LETTER TO THE Editor

Jules Vasquez, the Hypocrite

Dear Editor,

Jules Vasquez has long positioned himself as a crusader for accountability and transparency—a so-called champion for the people, exposing corruption and abuse of power. But recently, the mask slipped off. The man who has built his reputation criticizing others now stands exposed as part of a privileged circle of wealthy property owners attempting to take away what rightfully belongs to the Belizean people.

Reports indicate that Jules himself has been fencing in the 66-foot public reserve adjacent to his home—an act that clearly violates the National Lands Act. How can one who so loudly condemns the powerful for overstepping the law now engage in the same behaviour he claims to despise?

It seems Jules operates under the motto: "Do as I say, not as I do." His credibility is now in tatters, his moral authority gone. Whether it is the issue of land or the panty scandal, yes, the secretive Victoria's Secret non-disclosure agreement tied to BTL, his actions betray the principles he preaches. If a young person can be charged $500 for removing panties from a line, why is the people's money payout not public something to hide?

Accountability must apply to all—journalists included. Those who demand transparency must themselves live by that standard. Belizeans deserve truth and fairness, not hypocrisy wrapped in moral grandstanding.

Sincerely,
J Smith

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lodgement of an EIA Report and Public Consultation

For

Castle Capital Development Limited

A Proposed Mixed –Use Real Estate Development Project on Turtle Island – Private Island, Located Southwest of San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize District

The general public is hereby informed that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been submitted to the Department of the Environment (DOE) for a proposed Mixed –Use Real Estate Development Project on Turtle Island – Private Island, located Southwest of San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize District. While the EIA report is a technical document, it contains an executive summary which provides an overview of the project and its potential environmental impacts. The EIA report will be reviewed by the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) before a final decision is taken by the DOE.

The general public is also informed that the EIA report is available for public review, free of charge, from November 8th to December 15th, 2025 (Monday- Friday) during normal working hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) at the following locations:

1. Belize City Public Library (Leo Bradley Library), located on Princess Margaret Drive
2. Caye Caulker Public Library
3. San Pedro Ambergris Caye Public Library
4. The DOE's San Pedro Sub Office
5. The DOE's office at 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan.

The EIA report is also available on the DOE's website at link: https://doe.gov.bz/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=17094&preview=true and https://doe.gov.bz/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=17095&preview=true . The public is invited to submit their comments in writing on or before December 15, 2025, to the DOE Office in Belmopan or email: envirodept@environment.gov.bz; eiaunit@environment.gov.bz, and link: https://forms.gle/TpBMXv2y8iFQ4P6a8

Kindly be informed that a hybrid (in-person and virtual) public consultation for the EIA report will be held on November 27, 2025, commencing at 6:00 pm. The in-person consultation will be held at the San Pedro High School, Ambergris Caye, Belize District, and an online link will be provided near to the date for those who will participate virtually. The consultation will also be streamed live via the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook Page.

The General Public is invited to attend in person or participate online, to make comments, ask questions, seek clarification, and/or provide input with regard to this proposed project.

Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit
Office of the Prime Minister
3rd Floor, Eleanor Hall Building
Lake Independence Boulevard
Belize City, Belize

CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY

Consultancy to Develop an Operations and Procedures Manual

The Blue Bond and Finance Permanence (BBFP) Unit within the Office of the Prime Minister, invites qualified individual consultants to submit proposals for a consultancy to Develop an Operations and Procedures Manual for the BBFP Unit.

The objective of this assignment is to describe the standards, procedures and guidelines for the operationalization of the BBFP Unit. Standards, procedures and guidelines should be aligned with international standards and should not contravene what is prescribed within the Government of Belize regulations.

SPECIFIC TASKS INCLUDE:

• Develop a context-specific Human Resource Management (HRM) framework aligned with international best practices, local laws, and consolidated HR policies, including user-friendly HR forms, templates, and procedures.

• Develop procurement guidelines and methods for planning and procuring works, goods, non-consulting services, and consulting services, including operational items, along with all relevant forms and contract templates.

• Elaborate guidelines for a Financial Management System that ensures proper processing, management, and reporting of project funds, with strong internal controls and accountability.

• Establish principled guidelines to protect people and the environment from potential activity-related risks, ensuring stakeholder participation and providing effective channels for concerns or grievances.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

• Expertise in International Development, Operations/Project Management, Finance and Administration, or another field relevant to the assignment.

• Completed at least 5 institutional operations consultancy services.

• At least 5 years' experience managing national and donor-funded procurement and disbursement processes.

• Understanding of GoB Operational policies and procedures.

Duration: 3 months (December 2025 – February 2026)
Submission Deadline: November 18, 2025, by 10:00 am (BZ Time)

Full Terms of Reference can be requested by email at:
projectmanager.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz
Only proposals submitted in accordance with the official ToR will be considered.
Only shortlisted consultants will be contacted.

IDB

REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)
(COMPANY)

Design and Build for Corozal Town Public Spaces and Facilities

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize, Central America
Project: Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program
Process ID: BL-L1046-P00011
Deadline: **December 19, 2025; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

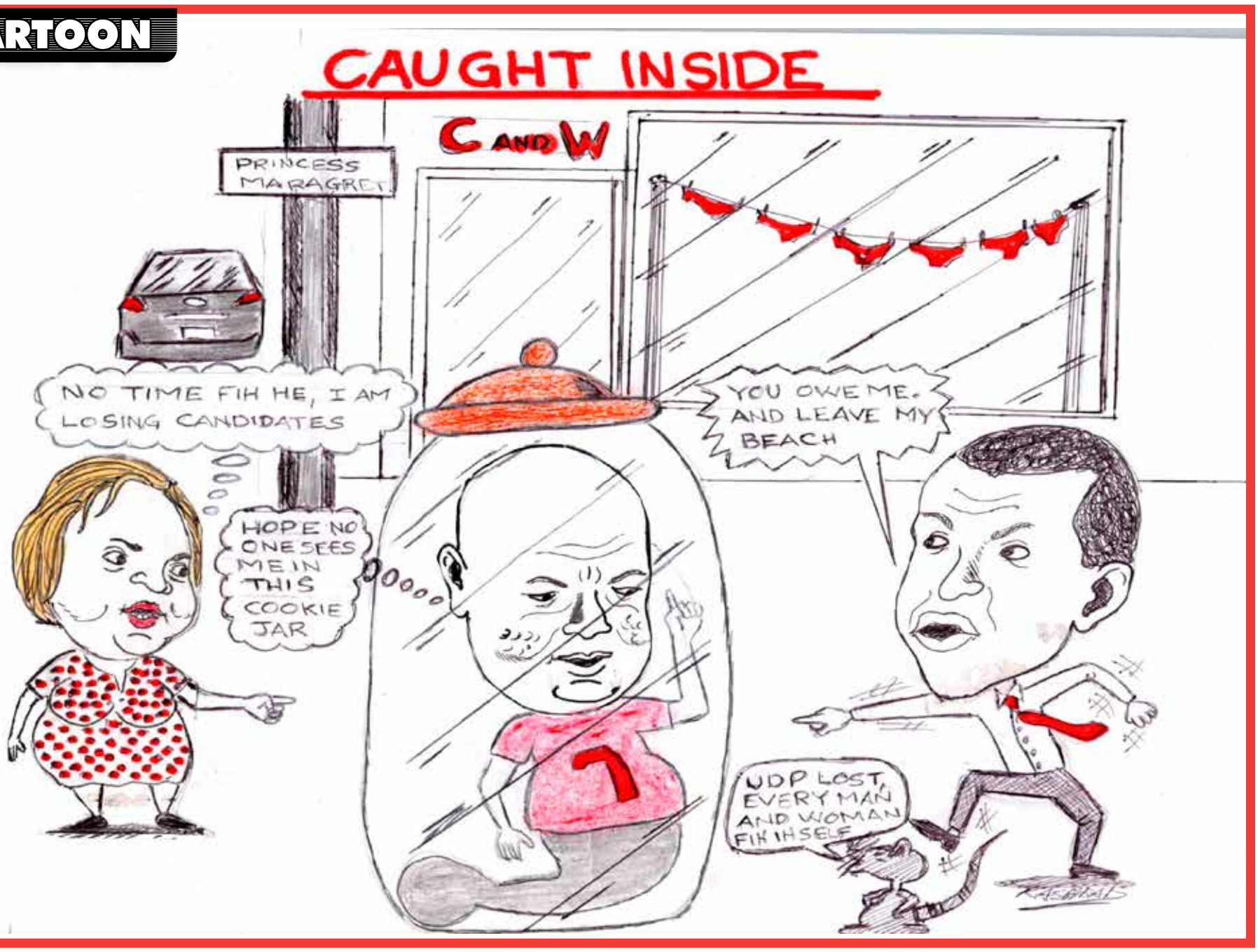
The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the Program's proceeds to procure the services of a Company for the **"Design and Build for Corozal Town (Mother's Park Upgrading, Children's Park Upgrading, Basketball Court and Amphitheatre Area Enhancement, Seaside Pathway Construction, Fisherman's Pier Upgrading, Municipal Pier Upgrading)".**

The Ministry of Finance invites interested companies to access the full version of this RFB online at https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit their Bid in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

CARTOON


CAUGHT INSIDE
C AND W
PRINCESS MARAGRET
NO TIME FIH HE, I AM LOSING CANDIDATES
HOPE NO ONE SEES ME IN THIS COOKIE JAR
YOU OWE ME. AND LEAVE MY BEACH
UDP LOST, EVERY MAN AND WOMAN FIH IHSELF

Coming up!

YOUTH PARLIAMENT

November 5 – This month is celebrated for youth and is also the month for International Children's Day. So it's fitting that Belize holds our Annual Youth Parliament, the 5th cohort, during this month.

Prime Minister John Briceño: "I met the young person representing me on Friday, November 14th in the youth parliamentary initiative."

She is Cameera Caliz a student from Mango Creek area of the Stann Creek District. She presented herself to the Prime Minister and gave him a snippet of what she would present. Listen in the Cameera and the other youth parliamentarians as they present. Their ideas are listened to and it does help the Prime Minister, this Cabinet and his government in making decisions. The essence of listening in to be aware of all issues and use the fact in general to make specific decisions.

PM: "When youth lead, nations move forward — empowering young voices in governance builds the future today."

Specific Procurement Notice

BELIZE Social Investment Fund

Request for Bids Goods

(One-Envelope Bidding Process)

Country: Belize

Name of Project: Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project

Contract Title: Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: P172592

RFB Reference No.: *BZ-SIF-513417-GO-RFB*

1. The *Government of Belize has received* financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the *Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project* and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for *Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI)..*

2. The *Belize Social Investment Fund* now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for *the procurement of goods for Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).*

3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" November, 2020 ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from B*elize Social Investment Fund, Ms. Jahnina Reyes, Procurement Officer* procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org and inspect the bidding document during office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the address given below.

5. The bidding document in *English* may be requested by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before *10:30 a.m. Belize Local time on November 25th, 2025.* Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a *"Bid Security"* of

Lot 1- BZ-SIF-513417-01- Metaveria- USD$6,187.00

Lot 2- BZ-SIF-513417-02- Metarhizium anisopliae- USD$6,075.00

Lot 3- BZ-SIF-513417-03-Trichoderma, Bacillus, Streptomyces- USD$18,750.00 Lot 4- BZ-SIF-513417-04- Adjuvant (Inex-A) or equivalent- USD$7,500.00

Lot 5- BZ-SIF-513417-05- Rootex (Rooting Hormone)- USD$9,000.00 Lot 6-BZ-SIF-513417-06- H-85 (Soil amendments)- USD$6,510.00.

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

9. The address referred to above is:

Belize Social Investment Fund
Ms. Jahnina Reyes, Procurement Officer
P.O. Box 459, 2nd Floor Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway, City of Belmopan, Belize C.A.
Tel: +501-822-0239
procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org

BARROW LOSES AGAIN

RED CASE DISMISSED BY HIGH COURT

Just before the elections Shyne Barrow and Tracy Panton became a part of a political soap opera whose rating were low as the people of Belize rejected both of them with super majority numbers. They made history by being two parties representing one party supposedly called the UDP. They were so lowly that two of them could not muster 31 candidates that would make a full slate. In other words, even if all their candidates would somehow someway win the 2025 March 12 elections they still would not be able to form government. With much of this UDP ado, Shyne sued since he put forth that Red was the UDP color and no other should use it. The level of insanity was such that even the Elections and Boundaries decided to NOT take them out of their misery and accept both as under the color red which is usually used for being bankrupt and in the Red.

Shyne filed suit and it was so close to election that the court seemingly ignored the case but no the court had other matter pending and Shyne's case came in to schedule in July and after some more soap opera case management was left for October where the judge surmised the following excerpts from the rulings:

"In agreement with the defendants, it is my view that the issue of the legality of the decision made by EBC on 25 February 2025 is now moot. Determining at this late stage whether the impugned decision was valid at the time it was made serves no useful purpose, as the decision was preparatory for the 12 March 2025 elections, which have already taken place and against which there have been no electoral challenges. It is clear from any reading of Mr Barrow's 28 February 2025 affidavit and the correspondence that he and his attorneys sent to the EBC that he was seeking to have the latter change its 25 February 2025 decision allocating the colour red to those aligned with the AFD for purposes of the March 2025 general election.

[34] To put it differently, the claimants' pleadings clearly indicate that Mr Barrow intended for the EBC to overturn the impugned decision before the March 2025 general election, either on its own motion or as a result of a court order. Notably, Mr Barrow has not, in these proceedings, stated, nor was it argued on his behalf, that he sought the certiorari and declaratory remedies for any reason other than the March general election. The claimants have also not provided a reason why that 25 February 2025 decision should, in principle, be considered and set aside after the 12 March 2025 general election. Relatedly, it has not been argued that the UDP possesses any trademark rights to the colour red, which the party can assert and enforce and was effectively asserting and enforcing as of right.

[35] Notably, in para. 11 of his 28 February 2025 affidavit, Mr Barrow complained that the 25 February 2025 decision will "harm our candidates in the General Elections of 2025, and if allowed to persist may cause damage which cannot be easily remedied or in some cases [will be] beyond repair."

[36] In summary, the claimants' pleadings do not allow for any conclusion other than that they have no practical need for, and (from a public interest perspective) no useful purpose would be served by, the declaratory and prerogative orders they seek.

[41] I note that in his 15 July 2025 email to the court, Mr Barrow acknowledged that the interim relief he sought—namely, restraining the EBC from what he called "issuing use of "Traditional U.D.P. Red" for the General Election to persons other than United Democratic Party candidates… including members of the "Alliance for Democracy" Party—had been overtaken by events and that he would no longer pursue the relief. Implicit in that decision, which Mr Barrow communicated to the court, is a concession that the purpose for which he sought to challenge the 25 February 2025 decision was to have that decision reversed before the date set for the general election.

[42] Drawing on the above, I uphold the defendants' plea and refuse to grant the claimants permission to judicially review the EBC's 25 February 2025 decision. I do so on the ground that the 25 February 2025 decision was superseded by events, namely the holding of the 12 March 2025 general election, and the interim and final reliefs sought by the claimants as set out in their application for leave lost practical relevance as of that date. Following the general elections, there is no longer any sound practical reason to adjudicate on the issue.

[45] It is clear from Mr Barrow's 28 February 2025 affidavit that he was aware from 25 February 2025 of the decision taken by the EBC permitting all persons seeking to contest the general elections under the UDP banner to do so using the colour traditionally associated with that party, i.e., the colour red. Relatedly, Mr Barrow and his then co-claimants filed their permission application electronically on 3 March 2025."

The full copy of the judgement can be accessed. It was clear that Barrow did not fully understand what he was getting into in relation to the use of color for Political party. He and Tracy have been wasting the resources of the Belizean people by filing suit as if they have their act together. Obviously the judge will see through the incompetence of the complaint. Who was advising Shyne at that time? Make a guess.

Violence is NOT love. Silence is NOT peace.
TOGETHER, WE END THE SILENCE.
TOGETHER, WE END THE VIOLENCE.
Belize has lost too many lives to gender-based violence.
This is our moment to stand united, women and men,
communities and leaders, to say enough.

PUP 75th Anniversary Exhibit *Belmopan*

Celebrating 75 Years of Service and Progress

His Worship Mayor Pablo Cawich had the honor of delivering the welcome remarks at the launch of the People's United Party (PUP) 75th Anniversary Traveling Exhibit held at the George Price Center in Belmopan.

In his address, the Mayor reflected on the Party's remarkable legacy — 75 years of standing firm in its purpose, serving the people of Belize, and continuing the revolution from the fight for independence to today's shared mission of building a more prosperous nation.

The event brought together high-ranking members of the Party from Belmopan and surrounding areas, including the Area Representative, Hon. Oscar Mira, to commemorate this historic milestone and honor the vision of our national leaders. (post)

Belize Boosts Early Warning Systems 60K worth of Equipment from KOICA

Belmopan, November 6, 2025 — Belize has taken another major step toward strengthening its climate resilience and disaster preparedness. The National Meteorological Service of Belize (NMS) has received $60,000 worth of equipment from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to enhance the country's early warning and data collection systems.

This donation comes at a time when the region is reminded of the devastating power of nature. Just weeks after Hurricane Melissa, a Category Five storm, tore through Jamaica, leaving widespread destruction and loss of life, Belize is investing in technology and preparedness to safeguard its people and economy from similar threats.

Minister of Public Service, Hon. Henry Charles Usher, stated, "This project, which began in July 2024 and runs through December 2026, is funded by KOICA with support from UNDP and the World Food Programme," Usher explained. "It is a bigger project aimed at strengthening Belize's overall statistical systems. The Met Service is the executing agency for this particular component, ensuring that we enhance our ability to collect and use critical weather and climate data."

The new ICT and communication equipment will enable the Met Service to produce more precise forecasts, generate real-time weather graphics, and collect detailed climate data for long-term planning. Chief Meteorological Officer, Ronald Gordon, said, "This project enhances our capacity to provide actionable early warnings for hurricanes, severe weather, or drought," Gordon shared. "But equally important, it strengthens our ability to collect and preserve climate data. That data helps us inform developers and planners about where and how to build safely — reducing long-term climate risks and promoting resilience."

In addition to the equipment, the project includes training and capacity-building programs for Met Service personnel and national disaster response teams. These sessions will ensure that staff can fully utilize the modern technology to deliver faster and more accurate alerts to communities across Belize.

Minister Usher emphasized that "Training is a key part of this effort," he noted. "We are not only building capacity here at the Met Service but also expanding to disaster management teams in Orange Walk, Toledo, and Stann Creek. With global funding becoming more limited, we must make the most of what we have — using every resource efficiently to reach as many people as possible."

The donation forms part of the United Nations' "Early Warnings for All" initiative, which aims to ensure that by 2027, everyone worldwide will be protected by early warning systems for hazardous weather, water, and climate events.

With this boost, Belize continues to advance its preparedness and sustainability goals — building a nation that is not only informed, but ready to act when nature tests its resilience.

Beltraide
making business happen

Website: www.beltraide.bz
Find us online **@beltraide**

Career Opportunities

Join a dynamic team driving Belize's economic growth, supporting businesses, and empowering Belizeans through education and training.

Export Business Advisor, EXPORTBelize Unit - Belmopan City

Support exporters in scaling their operations, improving product competitiveness, and entering new global markets through tailored advisory services and market development initiatives.

Key responsibilities:

- Delivering export support programs and advisory service.
- Assist in businesses in accessing new regional and international markets.
- Strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of enterprises.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Economics, Business Management, Project Management, International Trade, Marketing, Enterprise Development or related field
- Two (2) years working experience in business development
- Experience working with the Export sector is an asset

Business Advisor, Small Business Development Center (SBDCBelize) Unit - Belize City

Support entrepreneurs in building stronger, more competitive small businesses through personalized advisory services, capacity building, and access to business development tools and resources.

Key responsibilities:

- Deliver business advisory services to MSMEs, including business planning, financial management, and entrepreneurship training.
- Support data collection, reporting, and coordination of outreach activities.
- Maintain client relationships and ensure high-quality service delivery.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with major in Accounting, Management, International Business, Project Management or equivalent
- Minimum of two (2) years in business support with experience in working with the MSME sector

Graphics & Multimedia Officer, Marketing & Communications Unit - Belmopan City

Strengthen BELTRAIDE's brand identity by creating high-quality visual and multimedia content that showcases Belize's business potential, success stories, and investment opportunities across diverse platforms.

Key responsibilities:

- Graphic Design: Create digital and print-ready materials that align with brand guidelines and coordinate with external service providers.
- Videography: Plan, record, and edit high-quality video content (features, campaigns, testimonials).
- Photography: Capture and edit high-quality event images, maintaining a branded photo archive.
- Creative Development: Collaborate on visual concepts, storyboards, and content planning; stay current with digital trends.

Qualifications:

- Associate's (Bachelor's degree preferred) in Media & Communications, Film Production, Graphic Design, Marketing, Journalism, or related field
- OR Minimum of three (3) years of relevant experience in photography and videography
- Second language is a requirement, preferably Spanish
- Experience in journalism is a great asset

Administrative & Communications Officer, Belize Training and Employment Center (BTEC) Unit - Belize City

Enhance BTEC's impact by ensuring smooth day-to-day operations and actively promoting the unit's training programs, partnerships, and community outreach initiatives.

Key responsibilities:

- Office Administration & Support:
  - Manage front office and customer inquiries; handle petty cash and training fees; provide administrative support to the Manager (scheduling, travel, budgets); maintain strict confidentiality.
- Marketing & Communications:
  - Promote the centre through social media, website, and events; support marketing and recruitment to meet revenue goals; assist with print materials and brand consistency.

Qualifications:

- Associates Degree in Business Administration or related field
- Minimum of one (1) year in business support with experience in working with the online Communications
- Certificate in File Management

Administrative & Communications Officer, Small Business Development Center (SBDCBelize) Unit - Belize City

Contribute to the success of Belize's entrepreneurs by maintaining efficient office operations and leading communication efforts that promote micro, small, medium enterprise (MSME) growth and visibility.

Key responsibilities:

- Office Administration & Support:
  - Oversee front office operations, customer inquiries, petty cash, and training fees; maintain and update policy manuals; support the Manager (scheduling, travel, budgets); ensure confidentiality and assist with client data entry in CRM (Neoserra).
- Marketing & Communications
  - Promote the centre through social media, mass mailing, and events; support recruitment and revenue goals; assist Marketing with print materials and brand consistency.

Qualifications:

- Associates Degree in Business Administration or Marketing
- Minimum of one (1) year of administrative experience and / or training
- Certificate in File Management

How to Apply:

Interested candidates are invited to submit their CV and résumé by **November 15, 2025** to:
hr@beltraide.bz with a copy to **executive.director@beltraide.bz**

For more detailed information on each position, please visit **www.beltraide.bz/careers**

AN EFFORT BY CREDIT UNIONS

HURRICANE DISASTER RELIEF

In the aftermath of the devastating hurricane Melissa, entire communities are left in need of urgent assistance

How You Can Help

✓ **Donate**

Every dollar provides critical aid to those in need

✓ **Share**

Spread the word and raise awareness in your community

YOUR SUPPORT CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Donate to Caribbean survivors through your Credit Union

Please give your donation to our Tellers at the window
or
send your donation via online transfer to HRCU's account

130100500045622

Belize Credit Union League Ltd.

HRCU

CARIBBEAN CONFEDERATION OF CREDIT UNIONS

"...for it is in giving that you receive."
- Credit Union Peace Prayer

Office of Special Envoy – SCLAN - Taiwan

172 students Enhanced

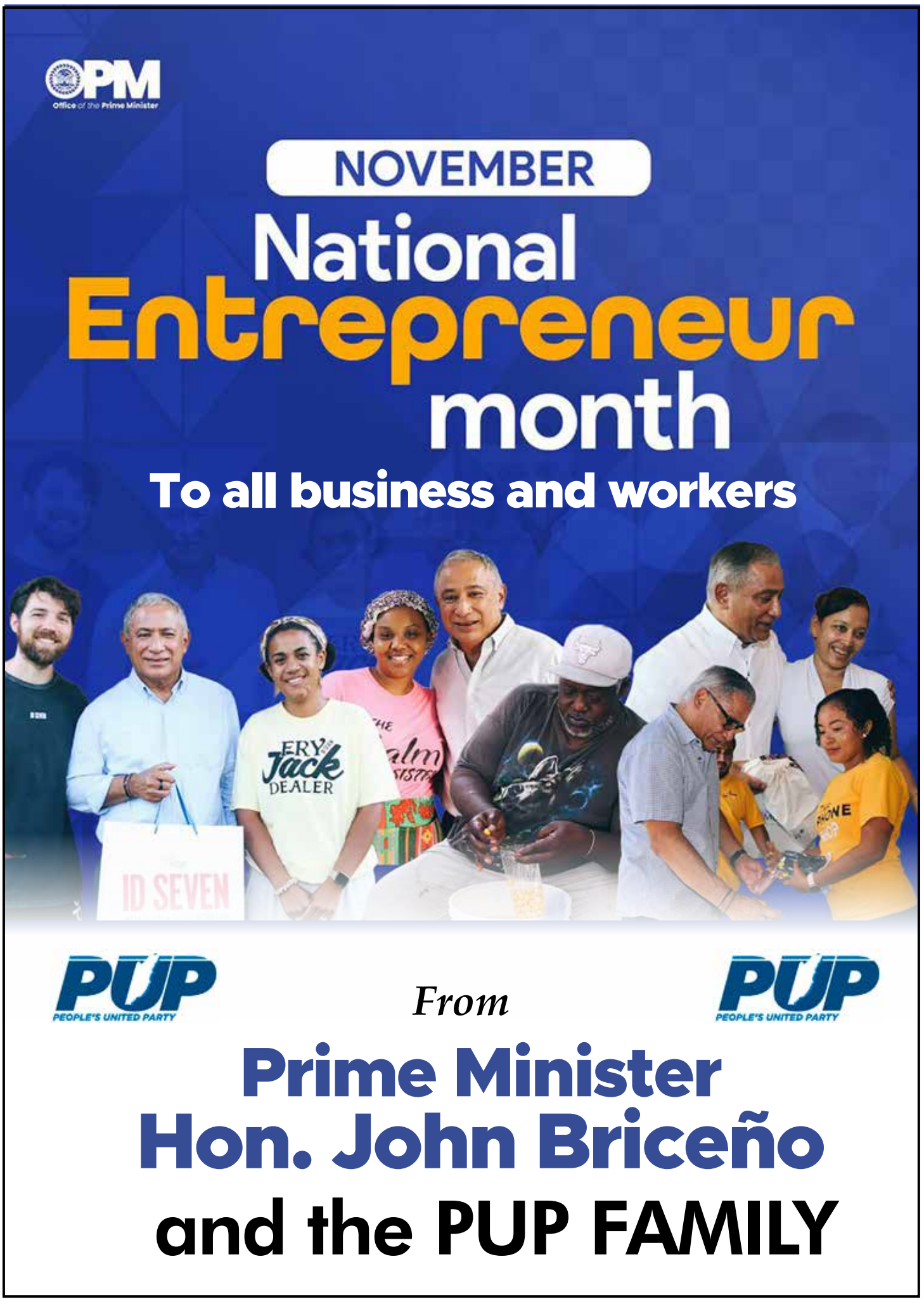
Building Healthy Relationships and Mental Health Awareness

Throughout the month of October, six impactful training sessions were held across Belize in collaboration with the Office of the Special Envoy for the Development of Families and Children, the Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN), and with the support of the Republic of China (Taiwan) – ICDF.

Schools: Our Lady of Guadalupe High School | Orange Walk Technical High School | Muffles College High School | Belmopan Baptist High School | Oceans Academy High School | San Pedro High School

A total of 172 students were successfully trained on two pressing topics - Building Healthy Relationships and Mental Health Awareness.

As Belize continues to face growing concerns surrounding youth mental health and relationship violence, these sessions serve as a crucial step in fostering empathy, respect, and emotional resilience among young people, empowering them to make healthier choices for a brighter, safer future.



Plan Belize 2.0
The Work Continues

Prime Minister John Briceño

"Pink power to end October - breast cancer awareness. The month ends, but not the fight, the faith, and the hope that lives on"

Hon. Ramiro Ramirez, Czl Northwest & Min. Anthony Mahler, Tourism

New Market in San Narciso provides more opportunities

Chromebooks Distribution

Belmopan Comprehensive School

Corozal North Executive support from Hon. Thea (Northern Caucus Chair)

Ongoing Support for Elderly

Bishop Martin HS - OWalk

Toledo Community College

OPM – Ministries: Investment and Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs

6th Cell Repair cohort in Dangriga; Gratitude to Taiwan's TM

Hon. Gilroy Usher, Port Loyola & Belize City Council

Major work on Arlington Drive

Ecumenical HS - Dangriga

Min. Julius Espat, Cayo South; MIDH All Over Belize

Picnic Tables at Armenia School

Repairing cave-in on San Roman Rd

Min. Oscar Requena, and MoS Cervantes, MoEST

Education Joint Sector Review

New Road in Lord's Bank & Bullet Tree

GoB Meeting with the Green Climate Fund

Hon's Michel Zabaneh, Dr. Louis Zabaneh, and Dr. Osmond Martinez

Benque Town Council

Resurfacing Football Field in Benque Viejo

Min. Jose Abelardo Mai, MAFSE

Looking out for Belize's Food Security & Potato Farmers' Market

District Association of Village Councils (DAVCO)

New Toledo Executive

Gregorio Choco, New President Toledo DAVCO

Daniel Arzu, New President Stann Creek DAVCO

New Stann Creek Executive

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

right on track

'Vamos Bien in 2025'

vamos bien

FSC Launches LicenSys - Transforming Licensing and Regulatory Oversight

November 3, 2025 - The Financial Services Commission (FSC) of Belize is proud to announce the official launch of LicenSys, its new online licensing and regulatory platform. This milestone marks a major step forward in the FSC's digital transformation journey introducing a smarter, faster, and more transparent way to manage licensing, registration, and supervision across Belize's non-bank financial sector.

Through this centralized digital platform, the FSC is revolutionizing its engagement with licensees, registrants, and other stakeholders. LicenSys enables streamlined application processing, real-time status tracking, secure document submission, and enhanced compliance oversight under the Financial Services Commission Act and the Securities Industry Act. By leveraging automation and data-driven tools, the platform enhances operational efficiency while maintaining the highest standards of regulatory integrity and accountability.

The launch of LicenSys reaffirms the FSC's strong commitment to innovation, transparency, and service excellence. By embracing RegTech solutions, the Commission is not only optimizing internal operations but also creating a more accessible and efficient regulatory environment one that supports Belize's competitiveness and financial inclusion goals. This initiative aligns with global best practices and reflects the FSC's role as a forward-thinking regulator dedicated to fostering growth and trust within Belize's financial system.

Looking ahead, LicenSys will serve as a dynamic foundation for continuous evolution. Upcoming phases will introduce advanced compliance analytics, automated reporting, and risk-based supervision tools, ensuring that the system remains adaptable to changing international standards, and the evolving needs of Belize's financial sector.

"This launch is only the beginning of a long-term transformation journey," said **Claude Haylock**, Director General of the Financial Services Commission. *"LicenSys represents our commitment to modernisation and continuous improvement, as we build a regulatory framework that is both innovative and resilient."*

The FSC remains steadfast in its mission to advance digital transformation and strengthen collaboration with all stakeholders ensuring that LicenSys continues to deliver greater efficiency, accountability, and impact in the years ahead. (release)

About the Project- LicenSys

LicenSys is a two-year digital transformation project spearheaded by the Financial Services Commission (FSC) of Belize to modernize the management of licensing and registration across Belize's non-bank financial sector. The project commenced in January 2025, and the first two phases are scheduled for completion by January 2027.

Developed in partnership with industry experts and vendor Norway Registers Development (NRD), LicenSys aims to replace manual, complex processes with a fully integrated, automated, and secure online platform. The system will serve as a single point of access for all licensing, registration, renewal, and compliance-related activities under the Financial Services Commission Act (FSCA) and the Securities Industry Act (SIA).

Over the next two-years the project will focus on:

- **System Development and Customization:** Building and configuring a digital platform tailored to the FSC and SIA Acts.
- **Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Building:** Conducting consultations, training sessions, and awareness campaigns to ensure smooth adoption by licensees, registrants, and partner agencies.
- **Process Optimization and Automation:** Redesigning workflows to reduce turnaround times, strengthen compliance monitoring, and enhance user experience.
- **Automation and advanced Features:** LicenSys incorporates automated workflows, smart validations, and real-time data synchronization to streamline licensing and registration processes. Advanced functionalities such as digital verification, integrated payments, and automated notifications reduce manual intervention, minimize errors, and enhance overall service efficiency.
- **Alignment to International Frameworks:** LicenSys has been developed in alignment with global Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) standards, including the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. The system enhances regulatory compliance by supporting robust due diligence, record-keeping, and reporting mechanisms, ensuring that Belize's non-bank financial sector meets international obligations and best practices.

About LicenSys

LicenSys is an online platform that provides services for all licence and registration types. This advanced system streamlines the licensing and registration process by standardizing and automating applications, renewals, and amendments facilitating regulatory reporting and filing, ensuring greater efficiency, security, and accessibility for stakeholders.

Key Features include:

- **Online Applications:** new applications, renewals, and amendments.
- **Real-Time Updates:** Instantly track the progress and status of your applications, ensuring full visibility at every stage of the process real-time.
- **Digital Certificates and Extracts**: Enables users to verify and download official digital certificates and extracts securely.
- **Integrated Payment System:** Convenient, secure online payments.
- **Automated Notifications:** Reminders for renewals and compliance deadlines and obligations to stay in good standing.
- **Enhanced Security:** Benefit from advanced data protection measures and 24/7 system access, ensuring confidentiality, integrity and available of all submissions.

Expected Outcomes of LicenSys:

- **Modernized Infrastructure:** A fully digital centralized platform that enhances compliance, efficiency and service delivery.
- **Enhanced Data Integrity:** Real-time updates and centralized records promote greater transparency, consistency and reliability of information.
- **Improved Compliance & Governance:** Automated reminders, and streamlined workflows, and digital reporting strengthen regulatory oversight and clarity on licensees' and registrants' obligations.
- **Improve investor confidence:** Enhanced transparency, efficiency, and accessibility build trust and confidence in Belize's financial regulatory environment.

ABOUT THE FNANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF BELIZE

The Financial Services Commission of Belize is the primary regulatory body overseeing non-bank financial services, including securities and capital markets. Its mission is to ensure a robust, fair, and transparent financial system in Belize while protecting Belizean investors and supporting the growth of the Belizean capital markets.

More information: www.belizefsc.org.bz

4 ways that patients can be #MedSafetyHeroes
1. Talk to your healthcare professional about potential side effects
2. Ask them how and where you can report side effects
4. Report suspected side effects
HOW CAN PATIENTS BE #MEDSAFETYHEROES?
1. Talk to healthcare professionals about side effects
2. Ask how and where you can report side effects
3. Read the patient information leaflet and follow dosage instructions
4. Report suspected side effects

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

PERIODIC MAINTENANCE OF SEBASTIAN AND BERMUDIAN LANDING BRIDGES - BELIZE RIVER VALLEY

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), intends to execute a large-scale periodic maintenance contract of the Sebastian and Bermudian Landing Bridges in the Belize District.

Provided there are no delays, the periodic maintenance is expected to start within a month. The MIDH hereby invites interested contractors with experience in general building and steel construction as well as experience in heavy lifting, steel maintenance, cleaning, industrial sand-blasting and painting to be part of this bidding process.

The Sebastian Bridge, also known as the Mussel Creek Bridge, has 4 spans across Mussel Creek, connecting Burrell Boom to other Belize River Valley communities such as Flower's Bank, Isabella Bank, Bermudian Landing, Scotland Halfmoon, Willows Bank, Double Head Cabbage, Lemonal, and Rancho Dolores. The bridge has two reinforced concrete spans and two steel truss bridge spans.

The Bermudian Landing Bridge also has 4 spans. It bridges river valley communities on either side of the Belize River. The bridge has two reinforced concrete spans and two steel truss bridge spans. Its steel truss spans are slightly longer and larger than the Sebastian Bridge.

The Scope of Works for Sebastian Bridge will include:
- Completely clean, sandblast and repaint all steel bridge members, gusset plates, etc.
- Replace all structural members deteriorated to more than ½ thickness of section
- Replace all deteriorated rivets or pins with equal or better connectors
- Replace all wooden framing for deck
- Clean, inspect, repair and re-install all steel decking beams
- Repair pedestrian railings

The Scope of Works for Bermudian Landing Bridge will include:
- Completely clean, sandblast and repaint all steel bridge members, gusset plates, etc.
- Replace all structural members deteriorated to more than ½ thickness of section
- Replace all deteriorated rivets or pins with equal or better connectors
- Replace all wooden framing for deck
- Clean, inspect, repair and re-install all steel decking beams
- Repair / reconstruct pedestrian rails
- Install rock rip-rap

The Project is being implemented by the MIDH, Project Execution Unit (PEU). An Engineering Coordinator within the PEU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities.

Consideration will be given to local firms who have qualified extensive experience in periodic maintenance activities of a similar size and complexity.

Minimum Qualification Criteria:
- General Construction Experience: 5 Years
- Specific Construction Experience in Bridge Construction, Steel Construction, Structural Steel Maintenance including sand blasting, and Heavy Lifting
- Contract Management Experience: 5 Years
- Construction Experience in a Project of Similar Size and Complexity (one)
- Access to Line of Credit: $400,000.00
- Average annual turnover of minimum: Bz$1,200,000.00
- Qualified registered Engineer: 5 years' experience

Effective **Monday 10 November 2025,** Bidding Documents are available at a cost of **Bz$250.00** from the address below.

Bidders shall submit proposals (one original and one copy) in a sealed envelope to the address below. The sealed envelope containing each submission must include the name and address of the applicant and be clearly marked **"Bid Submission for the Periodic Maintenance of Sebastian and Bermudian Landing Bridges - Belize River Valley".**

All Bidding Documents shall reach the office of the Chief Engineer/Engineering Coordinator at the address below no later than Friday 28 November 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The Ministry shall not be bound to assign any reason for not post-qualifying any contractor and shall not accept responsibility for any cost incurred by the applicants.

A pre-bid meeting shall be conducted on **Friday 14 November 2025** at **10:00am** at the Sebastian Bridge site and **11:00am** at the Bermudian Landing Bridge site.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
BELIZE C.A.
Tel: +501-828-5221
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz

Launch
Transforming Local Economic Opportunities
The European Union-funded ILO PROSPER Project

The International Labor Organization (ILO) and the European Union (EU) in partnership with the Government of Belize (GOB) has launched the Participation, Ownership and Sustainable Progress for Economic Resilience (PROSPER) in Southern Belize. It is a four-year initiative valued at BZD 8.9 million and is aimed at building resilience and inclusive growth across the Toledo and Stann Creek districts, and was held on October 30, 2025.

According to the ILO news, the initiative was considered a bold new chapter in inclusive and sustainable development which began on June 24,2025, with the inaugural meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) for the EU-funded ILO project. What the ILO considered a flagship initiative is aimed at creating decent work opportunities, strengthening local economies, and the uplifting of communities across the Toledo and Stann Creek districts, areas that have long faced structural and social challenges.

The Deputy Director of the ILO Decent Work Country Team, Noortje Denkers in her welcome remarks expressed that "*The PROSPER Project is not simply another development Programme.* ***It is very closely aligned with Belize's current Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) to 2029,*** *which was developed and endorsed in 2024, through a rigorous consultation with the government, employers, and workers' organizations*." However, an important observation was made by Xavier Canton-Lamousse, Head of Office of the European Union Delegation to Belize that "*Sustainable development cannot be achieved in isolation*". He called all of the stakeholders to join in the spirit of partnership to share knowledge and resources and to engage in dialogue which promotes innovation and growth.

Mr Christopher Tapia, representing the Ministry of Economic Development suggested that "*The PROSPER Project could not have come at a more opportune time. Stann Creek and Toledo have long lived with the compounded challenges of multidimensional poverty, limited economic opportunities, and underdeveloped human capital*." Tapia continued "*What makes PROSPER truly powerful is its participatory approach. Development cannot be imposed - it emerges from within. By establishing Local Action Groups, the Project empowers residents to define their own priorities, design their own solutions, and take ownership of their progress*."

Hon. Florencio Marin noted that "*the objectives of PROSPER align closely with our national priorities under Plan Belize and our Decent Country Programme, both of which emphasize inclusive development and sustainable livelihoods*."

Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Rural Transformation and Chair of the PSC Valentino Shal in winding up the launch acknowledged that the statistics indicated the challenging situations of multi-dimensional poverty, youth unemployment and educational attainment in the South of Belize. Shal cautioned "*We cannot talk about local economic development without empowering the communities to drive their own transformations*." Shal concluded by saying "*today is not dwelling on these challenges. It is about declaring that we are doing something about them, it is about action, it is about hope*!"

by Hilly Bennett

STATUTORY NOTICE
TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of ELSE JENSEN, Deceased, of MONKEY RIVER ROAD, TOLEDO DISTRICT, BELIZE.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 36 of the Administration of Estates Act, Chapter 197 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of **ELSE JENSEN,** deceased, of **MONKEY RIVER ROAD, TOLEDO DISTRICT, BELIZE** who died on the 21st day of January 2025 in whose estate Letters of Administration has been granted to BELIZE FIDUCIARY SERVICES LIMITED, the lawful Administrator of #35 Barrack Road – Third Floor, Belize City, Belize, on or before the expiration of three months from the first publication hereof AND NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that at the expiration of the said three months the said BELIZE FIDUCIARY SERVICES LIMITED shall proceed to distribute the assets of the said, ELSE JENSEN, deceased, amongst the beneficiaries entitled thereto, having regard only to claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice.

DATED this 6th day of November 2025
GLENN D. GODFREY & COMPANY LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for
BELIZE FIDUCIARY SERVICES LIMITED
Administrator of the Estate of
ELSE JENSEN

CABEI Central American Bank for Economic Integration

AMENDMENT No. 1
INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC COMPETITION PROCESS
Nº CABEI-CS 001-2147/2025
SPECIAL TECHNICAL SUPERVISION CONSULTANCY

Currently reads		To be read from now on	
Introduction (Extension of Deadline Submission) Request for Proposals			
3.3 Presentation of Proposals	Proposals must be sent to the address listed below no later than November 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.	3.3 Presentation of Proposals	Proposals must be sent to the address listed below no later than December 8, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.
Section II. Competition Data (CD)			
Section II Competition Data 15.1	The deadline for requesting clarifications shall be no later than Monday, November 10th, 2025. If clarifications are deemed necessary for the preparation of proposals, communications should be addressed to: Attention: Elvis Requena Address: 1904 Constitution Drive Floor number: 2nd, Floor City: Belmopan Country: Belize Phone: (501) 828-6102 E-mail addresses: projectcoordinator.bisp@met.gov.bz and copy technical.supervision_bisp@met.gov.bz	Section II Competition Data 15.1	The deadline for requesting clarifications shall be no later than Monday, November 17th, 2025. If clarifications are deemed necessary for the preparation of proposals, communications should be addressed to: Attention: Elvis Requena Address: 1904 Constitution Drive Floor number: 2nd, Floor City: Belmopan Country: Belize Phone: (501) 828-6102 E-mail addresses: projectcoordinator.bisp@met.gov.bz and copy technical.supervision_bisp@met.gov.bz
Section II Competition Data 15.2	The Contracting Party shall respond to the queries from the consultants for the preparation of their proposals no later than Thursday, 13th November 2025.	Section II Competition Data 15.2	The Contracting Party shall respond to the queries from the consultants for the preparation of their proposals no later than Thursday, 20th November 2025.
Section II Competition Data 20.9	Proposals shall be submitted by: Date: 25th November 2025 Time: 10:00 a.m. The address for the submission of Proposals is: Project Coordinator Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP) Programme Executing Unit 1904 Constitution Drive 2nd Floor, Unit #3 Belmopan City, Belize C.A.	Section II Competition Data 20.9	Proposals shall be submitted by: Date: 8th December 2025 Time: 10:00 a.m. The address for the submission of Proposals is: Project Coordinator Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP) Programme Executing Unit 1904 Constitution Drive 2nd Floor, Unit #3 Belmopan City, Belize C.A.

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

SECOND ROAD SAFETY PROJECT
SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF ROAD FURNITURE (LINE MARKING AND ROAD STUDS) ON A PORTION OF THE THOMAS VINCENT RAMOS HIGHWAY, TOLEDO DISTRICT, BELIZE

INVITATION TO BID

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of a **Second Road Safety Projec**t that will support (a) the continued improvement of safety for road users, (b) post-crash response and (c) capacity building for agencies involved in road safety management, and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOB and upon approval by CDB and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOB shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Ministry of Finance, Investment, **Economic Transformation**, Civil Aviation & E-Governance (MET) through its Road Safety Unit (RSU), now wishes to invite sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Road Furniture (Line Marking and Road Studs) on a portion of the Thomas Vincent Ramos Highway, Toledo District, Belize.**

Consideration will be limited to firms or joint ventures of firms which are legally incorporated or otherwise organized in, and have their principal place of business in an eligible country and are either:

a.) more than 50% beneficially owned by citizen or citizens and/or bona fide resident or residents of an eligible country or by a body corporate or bodies corporate meeting these requirements; or

b.) owned or controlled by the government of an eligible country provided that it is legally and financially autonomous and operated under the commercial law of an eligible country and otherwise meets the eligibility requirements of the CDB Guidelines for Procurement (2006).

Eligible countries are Member Countries of CDB.

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Document. Submissions that do not provide the information required or that do not demonstrate the prospective supplier's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Interested eligible firms may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents by contacting the RSU at the first address below between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., local time, Monday through Friday until **December 19th, 2025.** A complete set of the bidding documents (electronic copy) may be obtained on the submission of a written application to the RSU, at the first address below. The documents will be promptly dispatched, but under no circumstance will the RSU be held responsible for late delivery, loss or damage to the documents.

One (1) original and two (2) hard copies of each submission must be received at the first address below no later than 3:00 p.m. local time on **Tuesday, January 6th, 2026.** The sealed envelope containing each submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked **"TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF ROAD FURNITURE (LINE MARKING AND ROAD STUDS) ON A PORTION OF THE THOMAS VINCENT RAMOS HIGHWAY, TOLEDO DISTIRCT, BELIZE".**
In the case of electronic submissions, the email subject must be, **"TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF ROAD FURNITURE (LINE MARKING AND ROAD STUDS) ON A PORTION OF THE THOMAS VINCENT RAMOS HIGHWAY, TOLEDO DISTIRCT, BELIZE".** Bid document MUST be password protected, and passwords must be sent to the first address at 3:00pm local Belize time.

Bids will be opened, immediately thereafter at 3:15 p.m. (local Belize time) on Tuesday, January 6th, 2026, at the first address below in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Bids received after the prescribed time and date will be rejected. Bids must be sent simultaneously to CDB at the second email address below.

MET reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for MET's action. MET will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.

1. Project Manager
Second Road Safety Project
Sir Edney Cain Building
Melhado Parade
Ground Floor Belmopan
BELIZE, C.A.
Tel: +501-615-2654
Email: projectmanager.rsp@met.gov.bz

2. Procurement Officer
Procurement Policy Unit
Caribbean Development Bank
BARBADOS, W. I.
Tel: (+1 246) 539 1600
Email: procurement@caribank.org

NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given that the following companies has been struck off the Register of Companies and dissolved with effect from the date indicated:

Name of Company	Date
SUN SKY INDUSTRIES LTD.	29th October, 2025
WIN GARMENTS MFG. CO., LTD.	29th October, 2025

GenPro Consulting (Belize) Limited
Registered Agent

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Companies listed below have been dissolved and duly struck off the IBC Register as follows:

NAME OF COMPANY	Date of Dissolution
WORLD ENERGY LTD.	18th August, 2025
HOPE PLACES Corp.	26th August, 2025
TURRIS SCRIPTORIS INC.	29th August, 2025

Morgan & Morgan Trust Corporation Belize Ltd.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Companies listed below have been dissolved and duly struck off the IBC Register as follows:

NAME OF COMPANY	Date of Dissolution
BELORADO S.A.	15th October, 2025

Morgan & Morgan Trust Corporation Belize Ltd.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Companies listed below have been dissolved and duly struck off the IBC Register as follows:

NAME OF COMPANY	Date of Dissolution
CANTWELL UNITED S.A.	2nd September, 2025
RULEDS INVESTMENT CORP.	12th September, 2025
BNK3 LTD.	30th September, 2025

Morgan & Morgan Trust Corporation Belize Ltd.

Voice of the Common Man

SMART CITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS 2025: THE TIME FOR CITIES

By Hilly Bennett

As Belize is being represented magnanimously on the global stage at the central government level, the country is also making representation through the participation of the municipal body in addressing key challenges and the aim to develop Belize City's future as a smart, resilient and climate-ready city and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) 2025 is taking place November 4-6 at Fira de Barcelona Gran Via in Barcelona, Spain. Partnering the event are the European Union (EU), the Covenant of Mayors and the United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities (UNITAC). According to PR Newswire the 2025 event will focus on strategies to transform current metropolises into sustainable, efficient and livable spaces.

Deputy Mayor JP Eluide Miller, one of Belize's Nex-Gen leaders, is proudly representing Belize City and the Caribbean region at the SCEWC 2025, which is the world's leading forum for urban innovation. It brings together leaders from global companies, governments, and organizations that are committed to shaping a more sustainable, efficient, and human-centered urban paradigm. Miller holds the portfolio for e-governance and highlighted Belize City's progress in digital transformation, sustainability, and climate resilience on the global stage. At the Clean Cities Pavilion, Miller unveiled the Floating Boardwalk Feasibility Project in a joint presentation with Blue21 Business Development and Operations Manager, Vicky Lin, which was conceptualized during a meeting in Panama hosted by the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM). Miller demonstrated how the innovative infrastructure bridges environmental protection with economic opportunities. Deputy Mayor, Miller proffered "*We are now embracing waterfront innovation as a driver of culture, connectivity, and smart urban growth*". Miller also highlighted the challenges facing cities across the globe, including Belize, from rapid population growth, to informal settlements and disruptive climate impacts that places a strain on the municipality resources and developmental opportunities. However, Miller said "*Our approach flips that narrative - we plan proactively, transforming vulnerability into opportunity - through strategic partnerships and climate-smart design*". The Floating Boardwalk Project is designed to alleviate the effects of the shoreline erosion on the Southern Foreshore, while creating economic and touristic opportunities in the area. The project is a prototype for smart regional transformation, and is projected to becoming a model that can be replicated across the Caribbean basin.

Miller's participation is funded and supported by the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), with backing from the European Union (EU). Deputy Mayor Miller was accompanied by the Belize City Council's City Planner, Ms. Carla Patnett.

Miller emphasized that "*Belize is committed to excellence, innovation, and sustainability.*" Adding that "*This platform allows us to bring the world's best ideas home and show that Belizeans can lead and excel on the international stage.*"

Belize City's presence, through the competent leadership of Deputy Mayor, Eluide Miller at the SCWC 2025, ensures that Belize and the wider Caribbean community voices, as well as small coastal cities, are part of the global climate innovation movement, forging partnerships that bring technology, opportunity, and climate-finance back home. Deputy Miller is fast becoming a proven leader at the municipal level and beyond. Aluta continua!

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NUMBER 15/2025

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue
will be $67,408,200.00

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of $200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Wednesday, 12 November 2025 and will be redeemed on Wednesday, 11 February 2026.

Each tender must be for $200 or a multiple of $200. Bid yields must be submitted to five decimal places.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 7 November 2025.

The auction in the CSD will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Wednesday 12 November 2025.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement
System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

27 October 2025

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

WORLD BANK GROUP

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project
Process ID: BZ-CEU-458623-CS-INDV-2
Duration: Two (2) years
Duty Station: Ministry of Finance, Belmopan (In Office)
Deadline: **December 5, 2025; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received loan financing from the World Bank (WB) for the execution of the Project**: "**Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project".

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of an **"Environmental Specialist".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sandeep Betancourt
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106'
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Belize Judiciary Release

Hurricane Melissa spurs Solidarity With the Judiciary and People of Jamaica

4th November 2025, Belize City, Belize – Chief Justice, Hon. Mde. Louise Esther Blenman, extends heartfelt sympathy and unwavering support, on her own behalf and on behalf of the Judiciary and staff, to the Judiciary and people of Jamaica in the aftermath of the destruction wrought by Hurricane Melissa.

The devastation continues to present extraordinary challenges for the Jamaican people, including loss of life, damage to infrastructure, disruption of essential services, and profound personal and national hardships. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Jamaica in general, and with Hon. Chief Justice Sykes, OJ, CD, and the Jamaican Judiciary in particular, during this difficult time.

The Judiciaries of Belize and Jamaica share enduring bonds of collaboration, cooperation, friendship, and common purpose. In the spirit of regional unity, we stand in solidarity with the people of Jamaica in their steadfast resolve to rebuild, recover, and restore normalcy. We reaffirm our readiness to assist in any practical way, whether through professional collaboration, material support, or moral encouragement, in support of Jamaica's ongoing recovery efforts.

In this time of adversity, the resilience and indomitable spirit of the Jamaican people continue to inspire the entire region. The Judiciary of Belize is confident that Jamaica will emerge stronger, more unified, and renewed in purpose. END

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

PROJECT MANAGER

Institution: Ministry of Finance

Country: Belize

Project: Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project

Process ID: BZ-CEU-481675-CS-INDV-2

Duration: Two (2) years

Duty Station: Ministry of Finance, Belmopan (In Office)

Deadline: **December 5, 2025; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received loan financing from the World Bank (WB) for the execution of the **"**Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project, to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance."

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of a **"Project Manager".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at MOF- Project Manager – Individual Consultant – 0033 – MOF – 2025 - Procurement Portal or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:

Procurement Specialist

Ministry of Finance

2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan

Tel: 501-822-4106

procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

PlanBelize 2.0's Successful MSME Tax Amnesty Roadshow

Belmopan, November 6, 2025 — The Government of Belize's MSME Tax Amnesty Roadshow continues to make a strong impact across the country, empowering small business owners to formalize and benefit from tax relief opportunities. Following another successful stop in Caye Caulker and San Pedro, the program moves to its final destination in Punta Gorda.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Office of the Prime Minister in partnership with BELTRAIDE, the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU), the Belize Tax Service (BTS), the Belize Companies & Corporate Affairs Registry (BCCAR), the Economic Development Council (EDC), and the Ministry of Local Government, has already reached thousands of entrepreneurs nationwide.

During Day 8 of the Roadshow in San Ignacio and Santa Elena, there was a strong turnout from business owners who were eager to register and take advantage of the benefits under the MSME Tax Amnesty Programme. The EDC issued 138 assistance tickets. The IPCU received 48 completed applications, resulting in 30 certificates being distributed.

The momentum continued in Belmopan, where 221 assistance tickets were distributed, showing sustained enthusiasm from MSMEs seeking to formalize their businesses and access tax incentives.

The roadshow's subsequent stops in San Pedro and Caye Caulker also demonstrated significant engagement. In San Pedro, 23

applications were received, and 10 certificates were distributed. Meanwhile, over 50 applications were submitted in Caye Caulker, with six already sent for certificate approval.

The Ministry has credited the success of the program to the collaborative effort between government agencies and the private sector, noting that each stop of the roadshow brings Belize closer to a more formalized and transparent business environment.

As part of the government's commitment to supporting entrepreneurs, the MSME Tax Amnesty Programme has been extended until December 31, 2025. The extension provides additional time for eligible MSMEs to clear outstanding business tax penalties and interest while qualifying for up to one year of business tax exemption. It also allows for the processing of pending applications from previous roadshow stops.

Officials emphasized that the program is more than a temporary measure — it is a key component of Belize's strategy to strengthen the small business sector, promote compliance, and boost long-term economic resilience.

The final stop of the MSME Tax Amnesty Roadshow will be held on November 7 at the St. Peter Claver Parish Hall in Punta Gorda, where entrepreneurs from the southern region will have one last chance to register

and benefit from on-site support.

Business owners interested in applying can do so online at beltraide.bz/msme-tax-amnesty-programme by clicking "Apply Now," or by contacting BELTRAIDE's Small Business Development Center at 280-3195 / sbdc@beltraide.bz, or the Investment Policy & Compliance Unit at 880-4728 / 880-4729 / belizeInvestment@invest.gov.bz.

With the extension in place and growing participation across the country, the government reaffirms its message to Belizean entrepreneurs: there's still time to register, reform, and rise.

Editor's Choice

Are YOU Guilty of the Candy Tax?

What is the candy tax? How parents get their Halloween treats

In Belize, supporting Halloween can be seen and dissent can be heard. The following article just throws a little lightheartedness on parents who participate along with their kids in Trick and Treating. The article is based on the US experience of American parents. As a Belizean Parents are you Guilty?

By Greg Giesen, Delaware News Journal

Don't be ashamed; every parent has done it.

You take your child out trick-or-treating, and then for safety reasons, go through the child's candy and scope out your cut.

Call it "the mommy or daddy tax" or whatever, but every parent "steals" candy from their kids.

The website littlesleepies.com studied what parents do with their children's Halloween candy. The site consulted Google Trends to determine the search volume for each candy from Oct. 1 to 31, 2024, and calculated the average search popularity per capita for each candy. The site also surveyed 1,050 parents nationwide. Among them, 34% were men and 64% were women. Additionally, 10% were baby boomers, 35% were Gen X, 52% were millennials, and 3% were Gen Z.

How do parents get their Halloween candy? Here's what the study found out about parents and Halloween candy.

continues on pg21

Resilient Bold Belize

WWF GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project

Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit

Terms of Reference:

Project Communications Specialist

Background

As part of the Blue and Green Islands GEF8 Integrated program, the Resilient Bold Belize project aims to secure the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize´s marine and coastal ecosystems, promoting nature-based livelihoods and the wellbeing of Belizeans.

The Belize project will catalyze a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative, a major private- public partnership, led by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanent Unit within the Office of Prime Minister. The PFP will integrate the value of nature into the tourism and fisheries sectors, strengthen policy coherence, institutional capacity for gender inclusive conservation planning, and strengthen capacities for financial planning and domestic resource mobilization. The proposed PFP approach will foster impactful outcomes resulting in improved management coastal PAs, MPAs, plus mangrove and other coastal ecosystems outside of the formal PA system, and improvement of targeted communities' livelihoods.

A cornerstone of this project is partnership with Belize's coastal and fishing communities. These communities are at the frontlines of conservation and resource management, and their participation, knowledge, and stewardship are critical to the project's success. As such, communication and outreach efforts must go beyond awareness-raising and actively engage communities in shaping, owning, and sustaining conservation outcomes.

The Communications Specialist will therefore play a pivotal role in bridging the gap between technical conservation efforts, government priorities, and the lived realities of local stakeholders. By translating complex information into accessible messages, facilitating dialogue with fisherfolk and community leaders, and ensuring that community voices are reflected in national and global platforms, the Specialist will help strengthen trust, participation, and long-term sustainability of conservation initiatives in Belize.

Objective

Under the supervision of the Project Manager, the Communication Specialist will aim to increase overall visibility of the project and its achievements and ensure communications on and around the project actions and impacts are disseminated on national and international levels. The engagement of a dedicated communication staff member will provide consistent, high-quality and effective products that can strengthen the project implementation in Belize and share best practices and key learnings with a wider audience through the BGI-IP Hub and Global Coordination Project. Strategic communications activities and knowledge management products may be used to facilitate future PFP and BGI-IP initiatives and will be shared broadly. The communications specialist will also play a key role in connecting with the larger Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program under the GEF, sharing communications products and collaborating on best practices.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Communications Specialist will be responsible for the following:

1. Strategic Communication and Outreach:

- Develop and implement a project communication plan that raises awareness of the Resilient Bold Belize (RBB) Project, ensuring alignment with the BBFP Communication Strategy and Implementation plan, national priorities and community realities.
- Produce and disseminate communication products (print, broadcast, audiovisual, and digital) tailored to diverse audiences including government, civil society, academia, donors, and local coastal/fishing communities.
- Translate technical and policy information into clear, accessible messages that resonate with fisherfolk and other community stakeholders.
- Develop a publicly accessible website hosted by BBFP U for the project, to showcase project documents, lessons learned and project successes.

2. Community and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Lead communication and outreach activities with protected areas managers, ensuring the use of clear, culturally appropriate, and participatory approaches that support their role in conservation and stakeholder engagement using culturally appropriate and participatory approaches.
- Organize and deliver presentations, workshops, and dialogues with fisherfolk, community leaders, and stakeholders to share project goals, progress, and opportunities.
- Support executing partners (MPA and PA managers) in organizing regional/local stakeholder meetings and lead an annual national-level meeting to inform stakeholders, decision-makers, media, and the public on project progress.
- Contribute to the organization of events planned as part of the project

3. Media Relations and Social Media:

- Build and maintain strong relationships with media outlets to ensure accurate and consistent coverage of RBB project activities.
- Plan and coordinate media events, press releases, radio programs, and campaigns that highlight project achievements and lessons learned.
- Develop and manage the project's online presence, including website updates, social media posts, and engagement on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube; ensure the platforms are updated weekly.

4. Knowledge Management and Documentation:

- Support in the development of the project's promotional material and publications.
- Collect, document and produce lessons learned, good practices, and success stories for dissemination nationally, regionally, and globally.
- Ensure the editing of project document (reports, presentations, etc.) and alignment with WWF GEF and Government of Belize Communications guidelines and branding.
- Collaborate with the Monitoring, Evaluation & Knowledge Management Officer to capture and present project progress and lessons at national, regional, and international forums.
- Maintain a photo/video database and ensure proper storage of communication materials for long-term use.

5. Coordination and Technical Support:

- Collaborate closely with the Project Manager, BBFP Unit, partner agencies, and community organizations to ensure coherence in communication efforts.
- Contribute to gender-sensitive and inclusive communication approaches in all project activities.
- Provide communication support during community consultations, policy dialogues, technical meetings, and project events.
- Be available to travel to coastal communities and participate in evening or weekend activities as required.
- Be available to travel to Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program regional or global events

6. 4. Technical Delivery of Project Components:

- Component 3 will focus on Strengthened communications, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.

Within this component, the project communications specialist will contribute to:

3.1.1. OUTPUT: Strategic gender-inclusive communications plan designed and implemented:

- Strategic gender-inclusive communications plan designed to include required project reports, communications products to be produced (such as videos, social media posts)
- Facilitation of communication efforts for project coordination among all stakeholders.

3.1.2 OUTPUT: Accessible project lessons captured and disseminated including through Knowledge Management products and platforms, including.

Communications materials designed and developed such as best practice manuals; case studies; technical reports and in coordination with the MEK officer, dissemination of knowledge materials in an accessible and gender-sensitive manner to relevant projects, programs, and initiatives.
Accessible project lessons captured and disseminated including through Knowledge Management Products.

3.1.3. OUTPUT: Participation in BGI IP Communications events and workshops

Staff remain in close communication with BGI IP and attend quarterly virtual calls with the IP.

Qualifications and Experience

Education:

- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Management, Environmental Studies, Communications, Journalism, Public Relations, or related field.
- Certification or training in Sustainable Communication, Environmental Communication, or related specialization is an asset.

Professional Experience:

- At least five (5) years of proven experience in communications at the national and regional levels, including social media and online communications.
- Minimum of two (2) years of direct experience engaging Belizean coastal and fishing communities, with strong understanding of their socio-economic realities, cultural context, and environmental challenges.
- Experience in developing and delivering presentations and workshops, particularly with fisherfolk and grassroots community groups.
- Demonstrated experience in collecting and managing data and information from fisherfolk and local communities for knowledge management and reporting.
- Proven experience working with managing entities such as community-based organizations, NGOs, government agencies, or fisheries cooperatives in Belize's marine and coastal sector.

Skills and Competencies:

- Strong knowledge of Belize's community environment, governance structures, and the social context of coastal and fishing communities.
- Ability to translate technical and conservation concepts into clear, accessible communication products for diverse audiences (local communities, policymakers, donors, and international stakeholders).
- Demonstrated skills in media relations, audiovisual content creation (photography, videography), and use of digital platforms (social media, websites).
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English; Spanish is considered an asset
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and familiarity with multimedia and design tools (e.g., Adobe Creative Suite, video editing software).
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends, and willingness to travel extensively within Belize, regionally or internationally.

Personal Qualities:

- Strong interpersonal skills with proven ability to build trust and maintain relationships in multicultural and community settings.
- Creative, adaptable, solution-oriented, and committed to conservation and sustainable development.

Duty Station: Belize City

Payment Arrangements: The salary of the contract is commensurate with experience and qualifications.

The estimated Starting Date and Duration: Start date will be effective at contract signature.Contracts are renewed biennially based on an assessment of performance. This position requires full-time commitment.

Interested persons can send an Application Letter and CV along with three references to email: RBBPM.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz or printed to the following address by Friday, 21 st November no later than 4:00 p.m.

RBB Project Manager
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit
Office of the Prime Minister
3rd Floor, Eleanor Hall Building
Lake Independence Boulevard
Belize City
RE: Communications Specialist

Applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee. Those shortlisted will be invited to an interview with the Committee. Due diligence will be done to validate the information included in the CV and provided during interviews.

Belize Charts New Education Path

Belize City, November 4, 2025 — Belize's education system is entering a new chapter of reform and innovation. Over the past two days, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) hosted its Joint Sector Review of the Belize Education Sector Plan (BESPlan) 2021–2025, a milestone event that brought together educators, policymakers, and development partners at the Grand Resort and Residences.

The two-day session focused on assessing the progress achieved under the current plan, identifying lessons learned, and setting a new course for the BESPlan 2026–2030, which will define Belize's educational priorities for the next five years.

Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Oscar Requena, "*We have all the partners in education coming together to look at what worked, what didn't, and how we can build on those lessons*," Hon Requena went on, "*We've seen real success — higher student enrollment, improved retention, and a significant drop in dropout rates. But we also recognize where we must do more, especially in keeping our young men in school and expanding opportunities in technical and vocational education.*"

According to the Minister, the Cabinet recently approved the National TVET Policy, which paves the way for a national training agency and legislation to modernize the sector. *"We're preparing our young people for the jobs of the future," he added. "And that means building stronger bridges between education and employment.*"

Progress and Innovation: 2021–2025 Highlights

The 2021–2025 period saw unprecedented transformation across Belize's education system, marked by digital advancements, expanded access, and targeted support for vulnerable students.

The Belize Education Management Information System (BEMIS) evolved into a powerful data tool, capturing not only enrollment figures but also attendance, teacher qualifications, and school feeding participation. This expansion has improved accountability and planning across the education sector.

Meanwhile, the Education Upliftment Project (EUp) became one of the ministry's flagship successes. What began in 2022 with just four schools in Belize City now reaches 23 secondary schools, covering over 11,600 students nationwide — 51% of all government and government-aided students. The program provides free tuition, transportation, uniforms, and daily meals, ensuring that poverty is no longer a barrier to education.

The School Transportation Program has also grown significantly, with over 280 bus runs now serving more than 14,000 students countrywide, representing a $14 million annual investment.

In addition, the government invested heavily in financial assistance — an average of $11 million annually — supporting students from pre-primary to university levels. New systems are being developed to streamline and monitor this support through the Good Grants platform, ensuring transparency and efficiency.

The National Healthy Start Feeding Program (NHSFP) expanded from just under 500 students in 2022 to nearly 16,000 students in 2025, strengthening nutrition and attendance in schools. As one principal, Sharon Carr-Lopez, put it: "*This initiative helps students live healthier lives. It builds better citizens — people who will not get sick as often and who can learn better.*"

Expanding the Frontiers of Education

Belize has also made remarkable strides in Science, Technology, and Innovation. Between 2021 and 2025, MoEST launched 501Academy, the Code Caribbean Project, and Access501, while joining the GIGA Initiative to connect every school to the internet by 2030. Over 5,000 Chromebooks were distributed, and new USpaces have been opened across the country, giving students access to modern digital learning hubs.

MoEST's Special Education Unit also expanded services nationwide, providing individualized learning plans, therapy programs, and training for over 1,200 teachers to better support students with diverse needs. The Special Education Policy, currently being finalized, will ensure inclusive education remains a cornerstone of Belize's education system.

Laying the Groundwork for 2026–2030

Looking ahead, the BESPlan 2026–2030 will focus on strengthening equity, quality, and innovation in education. It will build on the foundation of existing programs, integrating digital learning, expanding the Education Upliftment Project, improving TVET legislation, and ensuring that no child — regardless of background or gender — is left behind.

Chief Executive Officer, Dian Maheia, "*We have been called to arise and work for our country,*" Maheia said. "*The work that each of us does is critically important because if we do not work, nothing gets done. This process ensures that our education system continues to evolve, meet modern demands, and shape the Belize we all envision.*"

As the Ministry of Education prepares to finalize its roadmap for the next five years, consultations like this one mark a significant step toward creating a more inclusive, modern, and resilient education system.

The Belize Education Sector Plan 2026–2030 is expected to be formally presented in March 2026. Visit: Belize Education Sector Plan Story Map.

Ministry of Constitution & Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs & Transportation
Unit 2, 3rd Floor, 1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan City, Belize
Tel. 501-822-2519, 828-5002
Email : PROfficer.myst@gobmail.gov.bz

October 29, 2025

INVITATION TO QUOTE
No. 0004/25

The Ministry of Constitution & Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs & Transportation is inviting quotations from qualified and experienced contractors for the rehabilitation of three terminal facilities — the Belize City Terminal Compound, Belize City Terminal Building, and the Belmopan Terminal Compound.

The purpose of this project is to improve the structural integrity, functionality, and aesthetics of these facilities to enhance safety, operational efficiency, and the overall user experience.

SERVICES	LOCATION
Rehabilitation of Bus Terminal Compound	Belize City
Upgrade to Terminal Building	Belize City
Rehabilitation of Bus Terminal Compound	Belmopan City

Interested bidders may submit a complete set of bidding documents inclusive of Specifications to the below physical address. Bids must also include Company profile and proof of legal registration, detailed cost breakdown per site and per activity (as per the Bill of Quantities), proposed work schedule and completion timeframe, list of key personnel and technical experience relevant to the project, evidence of similar works completed in the last 3 years, Proof of Financial Capacity including a recent bank statement (within the last 12 months), copy **of Certificates of Good Standing** from the **Belize Companies Registry**, the **Belize Tax Service** and **the Belize Social Security Board**, and any other supporting documentation demonstrating capability to perform the works. (Kindly see full bidding documents https://docs.google.com/document/d/12q1dJhX7Vp-o0gQudJbmku2lKPmu59hpIOXNo9lLrgU/edit?usp=sharing

The deadline for submission of sealed bids is **Friday 21st November 2025, at 12:00 noon,** via direct mail or hand delivered to the address indicated below:

Mr. Chester Williams
Chief Executive Officer
Ministry of Constitution and Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs and Transportation
Unit 2, 3rd Floor, 1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan City, Belize
Ref: INVITATION TO QUOTE (No DOT 004/25)

Late submissions will not be considered.

Four Detained for Illegal Possession of Forest Produce

Four Detained for Illegal Possession of Forest Produce

November 4, 2025 - The Forest Department of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management has detained and charged four individuals for unlawful possession of forest produce following an illegal logging operation discovered in the Southwest section of the Maya Forest Corridor.

On November 2, 2025, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) rangers on patrol uncovered an active illegal logging site about seven (7) miles along the Coastal Road on National Lands. Four individuals, Noemi Perez (44), Wedlyn Maas (21), Melvin Jesus Maas (23), and Everardo Maas (48), all of Cotton Tree Village, were found in possession of approximately 112 pieces (850 bdft) of mahogany and 85 pieces (928.8 bdft) of Salmwood lumber of various dimensions without any valid permits. Two vehicles, a blue Toyota 4Runner and a black Toyota pickup loaded with forest produce, were also seized.

WCS immediately alerted the Forest Department and the Police Department, leading to the detention of the individuals and confiscation of the lumber and vehicles. An interagency follow-up reconnaissance by the Forest Department, the Foundation for Wildlife Conservation, Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, and WCS on November 3, 2025, recovered an additional 30 pieces of mahogany lumber from the surrounding forested area.

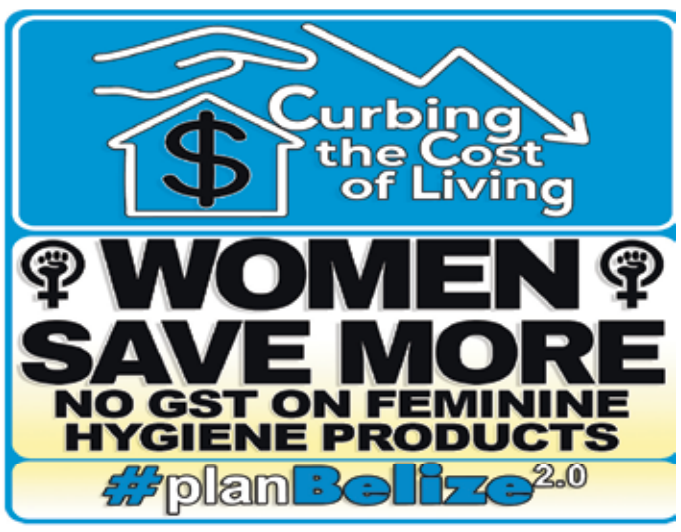
All four individuals have been charged under Section 19 of the Forest Act, Chapter 220, for "Unlawful Possession of Forest Produce." The vehicles involved remain impounded pending court proceedings.(release)

The Forest Department thanks all partners and the Belize Police Department, particularly officers from the Mahogany Heights and Hattieville Police Stations, for their swift action and coordinated response.

The public is reminded that illegal logging and unauthorized possession of forest produce are serious offences that threaten Belize's natural heritage and the livelihoods that depend on healthy forests. Members of the public are urged to play their part in protecting our forests by reporting any suspicious or illegal activity to the Forest Department Hotline at 610-1524. Together, through shared vigilance and community actions, we can help preserve Belize's forests.

END

For more information, contact:
Mr. John Pinelo
Deputy Chief Forest Officer
Contact number: (501) 822-1524
Hotline number: (501) 610-1524
Email: secretary@forest.gov.bz
Facebook: Belize Forest Department
Instagram: @FD_Belize



continued from pg18

Are YOU Guilty of the Candy Tax?

The candy tax: 30% of the parents surveyed impose the candy tax for taking their children out trick-or-treating.

Just taking it: 40% of parents consider their child's candy fair game starting on Halloween night.

Checking it out: 90% of parents go through their child's candy for safety reasons, but half of those admit to taking candy.

Buy it early: 33% of parents buy the trick-or-treat candy early and then eat it before Halloween.

Why do parents go through their child's candy? Trick-or-treat hours for Bloomington and Monroe County will be 5:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 31. Officials recommend setting candy outside so trick-or-treaters can pick out their own with less contact.

Trick-or-treat hours for Bloomington and Monroe County will be 5:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 31. Officials recommend setting candy outside so trick-or-treaters can pick out their own with less contact.

It's wise to go through your child's loot before they tear into it. Here's why parents do it

-- 61% of parents are looking for tampered candy
-- 51% of parents go through to steal candy for themselves
-- 22% of parents go through to remove candy that could be a choking hazard
-- 18% of parents go through to control portion sizes
-- 15% go through to find candy their child is allergic to
-- 4% go through the bag to replace the candy with healthy snacks

What's the most popular candy for adult When parents are going through their child's candy bag, these are the treats will most likely covered by the parent tax: Reese's Peanut Butte Cups | Snickers | Kit Kat | Twix | M&Ms

For children, the top candy is still Reese Peanut Butter Cups, but the next two – Sour Patch Kids and Skittles – should be safe from parents. Rounding out the top five are M&Ms and Kit Kat. (yahoo.com/lifestyle/articles)

Are you guilty of this tax?

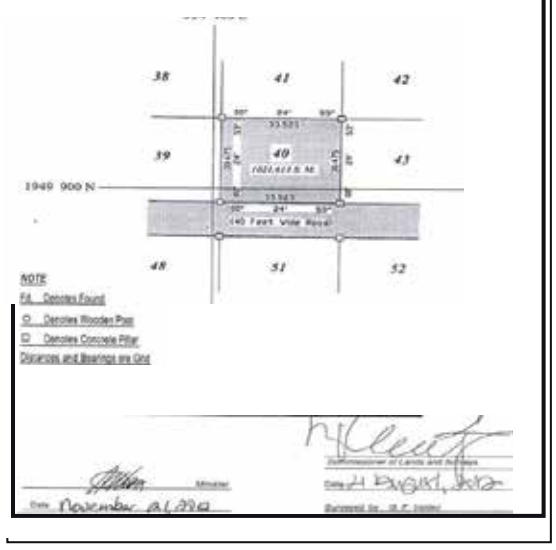
BY ORDER OF THE CHARGEE HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED, a Licensed Public Auctioneer will sell on site the following property at the time as listed.

At the Sandhill Community Center on Friday, November 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 40, comprising 1021.613 Square Metres situate East of the Northern Highway (now Philip Goldson Highway), Near Mil 18, Sandhill Village, Belize District, being such land comprised in MINISTER'S FIAT GRANT No. 628 of 2012 dated 21st November 2012 and more particularly shown and delineated on a Plan of Survey dated 21st August 2012 by G.E. Valdez, Licensed Lan Surveyor, recorded at the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys, Belmopan City, Cayo District in Register No. 4, Entry No. 12681 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon the freehold property of DELFIN MUNOZ

DATED this 3rd day of November 2025



All sales are strictly cash and deemed final. For more information contact:

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED
1 HYDE'S LANE, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
Phone: (501) 280-5644
Fax: (501) 223-0738
E-mail: foreclosures@hrcubelize.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/hrcuforeclosure/

DFC Awarded Prestigious IDB "Ambassador of Development Award"

Belize City | November 3, 2025 - The Development Finance Corporation (DFC) is proud to announce that it has been selected as the recipient of the Ambassador of Development Award by the Inter.American Development Bank (IDB). The award was formally presented today. November 3, 2025, during the Portfolio Review Meeting.

DFC's winning submission highlighted the remarkable achievements of the Global Credit Programme for Safeguarding the Productive Sectors and Employment (BL-L1037) and its associated Technical Cooperation (BL-T1144). These initiatives have played a critical role in supporting Belize's economic resilience, particularly among Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The award also highlights DFC's leadership, innovation, and commitment to advancing inclusive and sustainable development. Among its standout initiatives is the "We Empower" loan product, which provides targeted financial support to women and young men (ages 18-29) promoting gender equity and youth empowerment in the business sector.

This recognition underscores DFC's ongoing dedication to driving economic growth, fostering entrepreneurship, and empowering communities across Belize.

On receiving the award, DFC's management expressed appreciation to the IDB for the honour and reaffirmed the bank's commitment to championing development initiatives that create lasting impact and opportunity for all Belizeans.(release)

Gilroy Usher Sponsors Four Weeks of Volleyball Begins

1st place . B.J. Strikers
Sat. Nov. 1st , 2025

2nd place Kemar Ballers
Nov. 1st , 2025

All are invited to exciting volleyball marathon for the next four consecutive Saturdays starting **November 8th to Saturday November 29th** at the basketball court Cor. Faber's Rd and C.A. Blvd. Games start at 4 p.m. every Saturday with attractive prize for each player on the 1st and 2nd place teams after each event.

In the final game of the last 4 weeks' marathon at the basketball court on Neals Pen Rd. on Saturday November 1st. B.J. Strikers defeated Kemar Ballers 15-10 and 15- 10 in the best of three sets.

Bring out the entire family for the upcoming games.

GOB - TAIWAN ICDF & NTU Belize River Basin Project Closing Flood Warning Capacity Improvement

October 23, 2025 - The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management, in partnership with the International Cooperation and Development Fund (Taiwan ICDF) and the National Taiwan University (NTU), hosted the official closing ceremony and achievement exhibition for the Flood Warning Capacity Improvement for the Belize River Basin (FWCIBRB) Project.

As an extension of the Belize Urban Resilience and Disaster Prevention Project, the FWCIBRB initiative aimed to strengthen flood preparedness and response in key metropolitan areas within the Belize River Basin. It expanded early warning systems originally developed for San Ignacio, enabling up to three hours of advance flood alerts, and provided technical training to enhance the capabilities of Belizean disaster response agencies.

The event marked the conclusion of a collaborative effort to improve flood resilience through interagency coordination, community engagement, and capacity building. NTU experts worked closely with national agencies, including the Department of the Environment (DOE), National Meteorological Service (NMS), National Hydrological Service (NHS), and the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO).

Key activities included resilient community workshops in St. Paul's and Willows Bank, a demonstration drill in Santa Familia Village, public awareness lectures, and the distribution of preparedness kits and educational materials. The exhibition featured a project video, stakeholder testimonials, and certificate presentations to trained community members.

The Ministry extends its sincere appreciation to Taiwan ICDF, NTU, and all participating institutions for their dedication to building a more resilient Belize River Basin. (release)

As the earth reaches crisis level or more in its Climate Change plight, Belize's preparedness and due action must be relentless. This type of project must be perpetrated at other catchment areas and flood prone areas. The government is doing its part and it will lead a population desirous to be as safe as possible. (release)

Belize and UNICEF Launch National Consultation Shape 2027–2031 Country Programme for Children

The Government of Belize, in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), today convened a National Consultation to begin shaping the 2027–2031 Country Programme of Cooperation.

The event brought together key government stakeholders, civil society representatives, and development partners to align national priorities for children with UNICEF's strategic support over the next five years. (post)

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Lionel Smith** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"A & D Snack Shop"** located in Rancho Dolores Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kenny Lo** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Benson Shop"** located at # 5 Mitchell Estate, Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Maria Hernandez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Hernandez Shop"** located at # 269 Stork St., Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Huineng Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"LK Market"** located on Bahia Puesta Del Sol, Caye Caulker, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **ChuangQi Rong/JinJiao Rong** are applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Candy Shop"** located at # 19 George Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Vilma L. Martinez** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"A & B Restaurant"** located at Miles 11 ½ P.G.HWY., Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Vilma L. Martinez** is applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"Fire Night Club"** located at Miles 11 ½ P.G.HWY., Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiong Wen Yu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Fu Xiang Store"** located at # 771 Sailfish Avenue, Vista Del Mar, Ladyville, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **George Ning** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Siesta Inn"** located at # 3640 P.G.HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Dilun Zheng** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Green Jade Restaurant"** located at 9 Miles P.G.HWY., Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Felipa Barrella** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Barrella's Fruit & Veg Shop"** located at # 6484 Jasmine Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Samira S. Young** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sammy's Fast Food"** located on Res. Holy Emmanuel St., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Dipakkumar B. Luhana** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Seaside Grocery Store"** located at # 5 Craig Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **BMU Company Limited** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"BMU Company Limited"** located at # 72A P.G.Hwy., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Heidy Andrade** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Admiral's Place"** located at Municipal Airstrip, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **George/ Cashema Ferguson** are applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bamboo Swing Bar"** located at 9 ½ Miles Old Northern Hwy., Boston Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Wenling Lai** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"139 Store"** located at # 139 Neal's Pen Road, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Shuanghua Chen** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Oscar Shop"** located at # 39 Vernon Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jose Chau** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Eighty-Eight Shopping Center Ltd."** located at # 55 Neal's Pen Road, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **R & B Group Ltd.** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"The Tavern (Belize City)"** located at # 2 Mapp Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **R & B Group Ltd.** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Mapp Street Market Place"** located at # 2 Mapp Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **R & B Group Ltd.** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Di Bruwry"** located in Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **R & B Group Ltd.** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"CS Whiskey Bar"** located at # 19 Cork St., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Brandon Rosado/Angela Castaneda** are applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Brandon's Place"** located in Chapel Hill Area, Benque Viejo Del Carmen, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Joseph Bermudez** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Stella Cafe"** located in Succotz Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Joel Duarte** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Royal Palm Restaurant & Bar"** located at # 569 Kennedy St., Benque Viejo Del Carmen, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Bryony Fleming** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Guava Limb Cafe"** located at # 79 Burns Ave., S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Carlos Rodriguez** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Rodriguez Place"** located in San Antonio Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jose Escalante** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bendicion Cool Spot"** located in August Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Nimpha Ku** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"La Esperanzita"** located in August Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Angelica J. Tillett** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Rihanna Mini Shop"** located in August Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Hui Wen Tan** is applying for a **Convenience Liquor License** to be operated at **"Resource Supermarket"** located in Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Bibiana Bol** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Lee Snack Shop"** located in Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Teresa L. Bonell** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Ter's Restaurant"** located in Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Edilberto Moh** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tienda La Bendicion"** located Douglas Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Rigoberto Fabian** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"The Hidden Cool Spot"** located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yongboo Tan** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bobo Store"** located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Augustine Pott** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"El Trono Shop"** located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Veronica Quetzal** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Vero's Grocery"** located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Antonio Esquivel** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Antonio's Place"** located in Indian Church Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Carla G. Sanchez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Carla's Mini Shop"** located in Nuevo San Juan Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Marianela Dominguez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Elena's Family Store"** located in San Felipe Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Ruth N. Galdamez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Galdaamez Shop"** located in San Felipe Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Huiyah Zhen** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"San Felipe Superstore"** located in San Felipe Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Aidan J. Escalante** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Escalante Mini Shop"** located in San Jose Palmar Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Andrie Alamilla** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Come & Dine Restaurant"** located in San Jose Palmar Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Alberta Catzim** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bertha's Cool Spot"** located in San Jose Palmar Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Diana A. Chuc** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Dayel's Grab & Go"** located in San Jose Palmar Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Abner Urbina** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"PalmIsland Bar & Grill"** located in San Jose Palmar Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Pablo N.C. Martinez** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tienda Los Gansos"** located # 1940 St. Martin De Porres West, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

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